December 18, 2020

Dear Residents and Family Members,

We know you have many questions about the vaccine and the process for receiving it. We are still waiting on important details (like when vaccines will be available to us and which vaccine it will be) from state and county health departments. We will share information as it becomes available, but want to stress that things will move quickly. Employees and residents of The Mather may get notice about getting vaccinated just a day or two in advance.

We encourage you to do some research—including speaking with your primary care physician—so you can be prepared to make a decision to receive the vaccine. It is important to get information from reliable sources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). **Social media is full of misinformation and opinions based on that misinformation.** For an overview of the vaccine's safety, side effects, and more, we recommend a short presentation created by the Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine, found here: mather.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/AMDA_COVID19_VACCINE_FACTS.pdf.

Other good resources for information on the vaccines include
- CDC: cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/covid-conversations/answering-questions.html
- CDC: About COVID-19 vaccines: cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/about-vaccines.html
- CDC: Provider Resources for COVID-19 Vaccine Conversations with Patients and Answering Patients' Questions: cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/covid-conversations/

We strongly encourage all employees and residents to be vaccinated as part of the first group. The vaccine is an important part in stopping the spread of COVID-19.

We're committed to keeping you informed, and will send updates as we learn more.

Take care and stay well.

Sincerely,

Deann Daniel
Executive Director

12/18/20