

Friday, April 17, 2020
1:00 PM
updated 4/20/2020

Dear Gurwin Family Members:

Thank you all for your support and understanding as we navigate these unprecedented times together. I am writing today to update you, as many of you are calling or emailing and we wanted to give you the latest information.

As you have seen in the news, nursing homes have now taken the place of the hospitals in the stories about the effects COVID-19 has had on our communities. All senior living communities have been working so hard to protect residents from this pandemic, but as it spread in the community, despite our best efforts, this insidious disease made its way through our doors. We have been diligent in letting our families know when there is a positive case on a loved one's unit or wing, and will continue to do so; however, we felt it necessary to reach out with more detailed information in an effort to ensure total transparency and to give you the information you need.

To that end, I first want to tell you about our staff, and how hard they are working to keep your loved ones safe. When we lose a member of our Gurwin community, whether in our nursing home or assisted living facility, our staff grieves the loss as if they have lost a family member themselves. Having our residents in harm's way has been devastating to them; know their hearts are breaking when they hear unfortunate news about any of our residents. In the nursing home, we currently have 34 residents who have tested positive, and an additional 15 who were admitted to us from the hospital already testing positive. Sadly, we have lost 23 residents to the disease. In our assisted living community, we have had nine residents test positive, with one life lost. In some very good news, one of our assisted living residents who was hospitalized with the virus has fully recovered at our nursing and rehabilitation center. Earlier this week, he received a hero's welcome as he returned to his apartment at Lindner. This was a bright spot for us all.

Know that we continue to follow all CDC and Department of Health guidance, and our staff is wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment in all situations in order to protect our residents and themselves.

I realize that everything about this crisis is concerning, and this is made all the more difficult because you cannot see your loved ones. Please take advantage of the video chats where you can, and send Gurwin Gram Grams if you are able as a way to keep in touch. We share your hope that this ends soon.

Please take good care, and be well.
Sincerely,



Stuart B. Almer
President and CEO

Email videochat@gurwin.org to arrange a video chat with a nursing & rehabilitation resident or fajvideochat@gurwin.org for a resident in Fay J. Lindner Residences to request a time. (Limit one per family per week, please.)

Gurwin Gram Grams are short videos that can be uploaded to us via Facebook Messenger or by email to info@gurwin.org. Our therapeutic recreation staff will deliver your good wishes.

Be sure to check our [website](#) regularly for updates.

Gurwin Healthcare System

631.715.2000 | 68 Hauppauge Road • Commack, NY 11725 | gurwin.org

