

Staff Update | April 2, 2020

www.goodwinhouse.org/staffupdate

Addressing Staff Questions

What is Goodwin House doing to keep us safe?

The safety, health and wellbeing of you and residents is our most important priority. We have implemented the following to reduce the likelihood of being exposed to COVID-19:

- Initiated mandatory check-in for staff, contractors and residents
- Not allowing staff who work at other communities to work at GH when there is a confirmed coronavirus case in the other community
- Securing the needed amount of cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer to keep surfaces and our hands clean
- Working diligently to secure additional supplies of in-demand PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and other important products
- Partnering with residents and outside organizations to provide homemade masks approved by the CDC for specific uses
- Not allowing any visitors in either community
- Encouraging staff who can work from home to do so in order to limit the number of people coming in and out of the campuses

What happens if I hold a second job and a case of COVID-19 is confirmed at that location?

As advised by our local health departments and adopted by Goodwin House, our policy is that staff working a second job will be required to remain off work at Goodwin House and self-isolate for 14 days if they do NOT plan to return to the community where COVID-19 was confirmed.

If a staff member intends to return to their second job, they may not return to Goodwin House for 21 days after their second job location is completely free from COVID-19.

You might want to consider working just for Goodwin House during this unusual time. If you are in need of additional shifts, please notify your supervisor.

*We are committed to keeping residents and staff healthy.
Thank you for your efforts to keep our community infection-free.*



Infection Precaution

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I noticed that a team member isn't at work. Does this mean they are suspected to have COVID-19 or confirmed to have it?

There are many reasons someone may not be at work. If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19, staff will be notified by GH according to the local Health Department guidelines.

What happens if a staff member develops symptoms similar to COVID-19?

Staff members need to stay home if they are not well or experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19. If a staff member is being tested for COVID-19, we will notify any staff members and residents who might have been exposed. That colleague will be quarantined at home until their test results are available. If the staff member tests negative, we will return to the operational situation prior to their test. If the staff member tests positive, we will follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and local health authorities.

When I arrive in the morning my temperature is often less than the required 95.6 degrees; why do I have to wait to have my temperature taken again?

We know it's frustrating when you are asked to wait and have your temperature retaken. Best practice requires a temperature reading of at least 95.6 degrees to be considered valid. The people checking you are following protocol when they ask you to wait a few minutes and then have your temperature rechecked. Please be patient and kind. This is a difficult time for everyone, and your coworkers who are conducting the required screening procedures are performing a vital infection precaution role for everyone's safety.

Is there a difference between allergy symptoms and COVID-19 symptoms?

The main symptoms of the coronavirus are fever, new or worsening cough, sore throat, and/or shortness of breath. The main symptoms of allergies are sneezing, itchy and/or watering eyes and a runny nose.

We're here for you! Please reach out with any questions you have.

All suggestions welcomed and encouraged. Please send your ideas and questions to Fran Casey fcasey@goodwinhouse.org or call 703-824-1032.

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