

Staff Update | December 23, 2020

www.goodwinhouse.org/staffupdate

Update on COVID-19 Cases as of Wednesday, December 23:

GHA	GHBC
Residents: 6 resident cases	Residents: 25 resident cases
Staff: 9 staff cases, 7 pending test results to return to work	Staff: 15 staff cases, 3 pending test results to return to work

Important Vaccine Update | Please Read!

We have just learned that during our first vaccine clinics (which start next week), all staff (not just Health Care Center staff) **might** have the opportunity to get vaccinated. Due to this development, we are asking all staff interested in receiving the vaccine to complete a consent form. Although we are unsure how many additional vaccines will be available at these initial clinics, we want to be prepared and have all the required paperwork ready.

Keep an eye out in your email for the consent form and instructions, or speak with your supervisor.

Have You Taken the Vaccine Survey?

Please take our brief Vaccine Survey. We are asking all staff to tell us whether you plan to be vaccinated. A PDF of the survey can be printed from the Staff Update page, or you can visit this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZB7NWR7>

Please note: Pregnant women should speak to their ob-gyn about being vaccinated. If you are still undecided about receiving the vaccine, please reach out to HR with your questions. HR will schedule time for you to speak with Dr. Nelson or one of our senior nurses to address your questions.

Why We Need Your Health Insurance Card

Insurance providers are covering the costs of administering the vaccine. This is why we need you to submit copies of your health insurance card, even if you are undecided about taking the vaccine. Please note: If you decline the vaccine when it is first made available to you, we do not know when you will have the opportunity again.

By providing this information, you are not committing to anything. The card is needed if you choose to become vaccinated when the opportunity arises, and we want to make sure the opportunity is available to you. We are asking everyone to provide a copy to their supervisor or HR. If you have not already done so, please copy the front and back of your card and send it to hr@goodwinhouse.org.

We also want you to be aware that after you receive the vaccine, you might receive a notice from your insurance provider. The notice could arrive by mail or email. This notice is not a bill. It is an "Explanation of Benefits "(EOB). The EOB will explain the cost of the administration of the vaccine and that the cost has been covered in full by your insurance provider.

Why I Am Getting the Vaccine



"I'm getting the COVID-19 vaccine because of the strong scientific evidence for effectiveness it shows among diverse populations (age, race, gender, and those with comorbidities). I also want to protect the lives and wellbeing of my family, patients, colleagues and community. I've now received the vaccine and it was painless!"

- Dr. Mariatu Koroma-Nelson (left), Goodwin House Medical Director, receiving the COVID-19 vaccine Thursday, Dec. 17 at the Virginia Hospital Center

Extra Efforts We're Taking Due to the Rise in Positive Cases

Where we have a greater number of COVID-19 cases, we take additional measures to contain the spread of the virus. For example, in the GHBC Health Care Center, we are keeping the fire doors closed, increasing the frequency of PPE changes and running the Solaris UV Machine during overnight cleanings of the Health Care Center common areas. We have also ordered Fresh Air Mobile air cleaning units, which are portable air purifiers. We will be distributing the first batch of these air purifiers in the GHBC Health Care Center as well.

Congratulations to the GHBC Employee of the Year!

We are proud to share that Shelby Garlick is our 2020 GHBC Employee of the Year! Shelby truly has gone above and beyond for our staff and residents at GHBC. In addition to her role as Assistant Director of Nursing, Shelby also rose to the challenge of becoming our Infection Preventionist during the COVID-19 pandemic. She has been the point person for COVID testing, tracking, follow up and many other tasks to keep us safe and informed. Congratulations, Shelby!



Celebrating Our Staff

Over the past two weeks, GHA and GHBC have held holiday-themed events to show appreciation for staff. At GHBC, this included carol singers, gift bags, cookies and hot drinks. At GHA, we celebrated staff with custom-ordered Panera sandwiches and with cookies that were funded by the Ruby and Standau Weinbrecht Fund for GHA Staff Enrichment.



Messages of Gratitude

In honor of the holiday season, residents and their loved ones have shared special messages of thanks for all Goodwin House staff. We are sharing several of these messages over the Christmas and New Year's weeks.

"When I was in my own home some ten years ago I could never have imagined I would one day be living somewhere surrounded and aided by the many wonderful people who make up the diverse staff here at Goodwin House Alexandria. It has certainly proven to be a true blessing to reside among such a group of caring, dedicated folks. Thank you for all that you do." – Jackie Phillips, member of the GHA Resident Council



"Here's to our Staff here at Goodwin House, who have seen their life routines turned upside-down and sideways by the pandemic, and whose work routines have been made more complicated by sanitation requirements, masks, and the like, and who nonetheless faithfully show up to serve us – more often than not with a big smile of greeting! God bless 'em!" – Hal Bean, GHBC Resident

"Thinking of all of you during this holiday season and the many kindnesses you have shown to the residents of Goodwin House Alexandria this past year! I hope your holidays are filled with warmth and love. Thank you so much for everything." – Robin Barbee, member of the GHA Resident Council

"We want to send our warmest thanks to all the women and men whose work at Goodwin House keeps us safe, healthy and happy. We know this pandemic year has put a huge burden on the GH staff. Thank you for everything you do." – Nancy and Dom DeMarco, GHBC Residents

Seek and Celebrate Generosity

2020 has brought focus to those in need. Many staff have responded by giving to the Goodwin House Foundation—some for the first time; others in more significant ways. One such staff member is our own President and CEO Rob Liebreich. Rob and his family recently made a very meaningful year-end gift to the Goodwin House Foundation. They shared that they were inspired to give because of the incredible resilience exemplified by every single resident, member, patient and employee this year. We are immensely grateful for the generosity of our many donors. We are also thankful for all that you have done to inspire them! Because of you, we have received amazing gifts that will provide for many more residents and staff members who are in need of financial support. If you'd like to join others in supporting the Foundation, please reach out to giving@goodwinhouse.org.



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



Infection Precaution