

Message to the Duncaster Community
Michael A. O'Brien
President and CEO
April 24, 2020

While there has been a lot of negative news recently about senior living and nursing homes and their response to the COVID-19 crisis I wanted to share some positive news with the Duncaster community. On Tuesday April 21st the Caleb Hitchcock Health Center had an unannounced visit from the CT Department of Public Health for an interim focused survey on infection control processes related to COVID-19. They are surveying all nursing homes in the state. The survey went very well and the surveyor was very complementary of our proactive planning, procedures, precautions and leadership. Our Vice President-Health Services Ami Desai has provided steady leadership throughout this crisis, with incredible support from her entire leadership team, Kelly Papa, Vice President-Strategy and Community Life, and our Doctors. And of course the unwavering commitment of the entire frontline staff (RNs, LPNs, CNAs and support staff) to our residents, their tremendous sacrifice, hard work and dedication, is truly inspirational. While we know we have a long way to go; by working together we will overcome this challenge.

I also wanted to provide you with the most recent information regarding the current status of the COVID-19 situation at Duncaster. As of today a total of 20 Duncaster residents have been tested. Our overall result are as follows;

- **Assisted Living (Thistle Way/Talcott Notch)**-three residents tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. One has been hospitalized and the other two were transferred to private rooms at the Caleb Hitchcock Health Center in our dedicated isolation neighborhood.
- **Assisted Living (Dogwood)**-one resident tested negative.
- **Caleb Hitchcock Health Center**-fourteen residents have been tested: ten tested negative and four tested positive. Of those four residents who tested positive; one passed and the other three were transferred to private rooms at the Caleb Hitchcock Health Center in our dedicated isolation neighborhood.
- **Independent Living**-two residents tested negative.
- In summary, five residents are being cared for in private rooms at the Caleb Hitchcock Health Center in our dedicated isolation neighborhood.
- There are no additional pending tests on campus.

In addition, a total of ten employees have been tested: four employees tested negative and six tested positive. I am happy to report that the staff are doing well.

Please keep our residents and staff in your thoughts and prayers.

We continue to follow all public health recommendations, guidance from our medical staff and are taking the appropriate steps to prevent the further spread of the virus to keep our residents, our staff and our community safe. And I want to reassure you that our team is doing all the right things to fight this virus.

