

November 22, 2021

TO: Residents, Family, Friends

From: Elizabeth (Beth) Howarth, Administrator

Happy Thanksgiving!!!

We are so blessed. There is much for which to be thankful. As I remember back to last year this time, it is almost surreal. By some standards, last year seems decades away, yet there are aspects of last year that seemingly feel like they just happened! How our minds can be so fickle, only God knows and understands.

This year we have open visitation (I know, everyone wants outings!). Residents are all vaccinated and boosted (no, this is not a word, I made it up!). Everyone is doing well with falls/pressure sores being very minimal. This in and of itself is a blessing as it makes caring for everyone so much easier.

To those who question the decision of outings.....the county positivity rate has climbed up over 10% with the transmission rate still in the red. So, outings are out of the mix for a while. We were praying Christmas might be different, however, with the data trending upward again, we are skeptical this will play out in a positive manner. Everyone wants this over sooner than later, right?

Speaking of sooner than later, the CMS Vaccine Mandate for Healthcare is December 5, 2021 for first vaccines or exemptions. Staff have been notified of deadlines and consequences. Know Homestead will do what is right by everyone and continue to protect not only the residents, but staff also.

So, back to Thanksgiving! I pray you will be able to find blessings in every day. Some days are harder than others, however, each day does hold blessings. I was asked a question I would like to pose to you:

If all I had today was what I thanked God for yesterday, what would I have?

It's something to ponder. It has been clinically proven, being grateful/thankful improves your health; physically, mentally, and psychologically.

As you have resources and time, I encourage you to give back to others. There are many still in need. Take time for yourself, your family, and others. Be smart while out and about. Use hand sanitizer, wear a mask, and be aware of those around you who may not be physically well.

Thank you for you! Our families and friends are our support and encouragement team. We appreciate your presence in the facility. Welcome BACK!!

Have a blessed Thanksgiving!!!

Elizabeth Howarth, Administrator