

# MARY WADE



*A five star senior community with a tradition of quality healthcare*

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March 9, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

To prevent the spread of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), we received word from Deputy Commissioner, Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA, from the State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health, that effective immediately, all nursing homes must restrict visitors. The only exception to this is when a current health state (e.g. end-of-life care) is in question.

I know how concerning this is especially to families who visit often and to those that have private duty companions that come in to visit. My hope is that this restriction on visits will be brief. Social interaction for our resident's is so important. We will do our best to assure you that you can remain in contact with your loved ones through technology such as Skype or FaceTime. I ask that you be patient and understanding during this time. I am including the letter from Heather for you to review. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at [sdecosta@marywade.org](mailto:sdecosta@marywade.org).

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stan DeCosta".

Stan DeCosta  
Executive Director

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH




Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH  
Commissioner

Ned Lamont  
Governor  
Susan Bysiewicz  
Lt. Governor

### HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

### BLAST FAX 2020-07

**TO:** All Nursing Homes  
**FROM:** Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA   
**CC:** Barbara Cass, RN., Branch Chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch  
**DATE:** March 9, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** Visitor Restrictions

The State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health is committed to taking critical steps to ensure nursing home residents are protected from communicable diseases, including Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19).

To prevent the spread of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) in healthcare facilities, specifically Chronic and Convalescent Nursing Homes and Rest Homes with Nursing Supervision, effective **immediately**, the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health, is directing that all Chronic and Convalescent Nursing Homes and Rest Homes with Nursing Supervision impose restrictions on all visitors **except** when a current health state (e.g. end-of-life care) is in question. For example, the facility may allow a visitor(s) to a resident who is on hospice or end-of-life care as long as the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is used in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance documents and when the resident meets the criteria based on exposure to CVOVID-19. Please refer to CDC guidance documents at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019)



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