

Family Update – Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

The bad news: today, we identified a new case of COVID-19 among our residents.

The good news: Our staff knew exactly what to do and responded quickly and decisively to restrict the spread of the virus, with strict quarantining, full PPE and continued cohorting of our residents.

This virus can come from anywhere and that is why we cannot become complacent with the easing of restrictions and the reopening of our state. Particularly as we head into the holiday weekend, we will all be wearing our masks, washing our hands and practicing social distancing.

COVID-19 Positive

Today, a resident who had previously tested negative on two occasions, had a positive test result when they were admitted to the hospital this morning (unrelated to COVID). We quickly responded by ensuring strict cohorting and quarantining of residents. The upside in all this is that once we received the test results, staff knew exactly what needed to be done.

Testing

Because we have identified a new case of COVID-19 among our residents, we have scheduled testing this week, contrary to what I reported yesterday. All residents and staff who have previously tested negative will again be tested tomorrow and Friday.

A Ray of Sunshine

With all the focus on precautions and testing, sometimes we forget that many of our residents have recovered from the virus and, like us, are looking forward to life getting back to normal. They are our rays of sunshine. One such resident is Grace Weissman-Spiegel-Davis, who celebrated her 102nd birthday last month. Grace was interviewed recently for a PBS segment of “Brief But Spectacular”. We created a **short video** in celebration of Grace and her fellow COVID survivors at Mary Wade.

You can contact me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810.

Thank you,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Family Update – Friday, July 3, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

As we approach the upcoming Fourth of July holiday, I join you in celebrating our great nation and the men and women who sacrificed for our independence. I hope you enjoy the holiday and celebrate safely by wearing your masks, washing your hands and maintaining social distancing. We are all in this together and together we will safeguard our health for the future.

Testing

We resumed testing this week and are still awaiting results. With the increase in testing, the 24-hour turn around time we experience in recent weeks, is no longer expected. We look forward to reporting those results on Monday of next week.

Outdoor Visits

The holiday weekend is a perfect time to reconnect with our families. Remember that you must wear a mask and maintain social distancing. All visits need to be scheduled in advance. Please contact Tiffany Burnham at tburnham@marywade.org for residents in Kimberly and Joy Rembert at jrembert@marywade.org for residents in Boardman.

Thank you again for your unwavering support of our efforts and your understanding as we protect the health and safety of our residents. Just a reminder that you can contact me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810 if you have any questions or comments.

Thank you,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Family Update – Tuesday, July 7, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

Tomorrow, July 8, we join a global initiative in remembering those elders who have passed away during the last few months during the-Coronavirus pandemic. This health crisis has robbed our communities of our seniors who greatly contributed to our society and our lives, and has impacted aged care organizations and older adults in countless ways. Mary Wade remembers our residents who have passed away during this time and celebrates their lives and their contributions to their families, their communities and to Mary Wade.

Act for Older Adults Campaign

We invite you to advocate for urgently needed protections for older adults and their care workers in nursing homes, assisted living, affordable housing, hospice, and home settings. The Act for Older Adults campaign goes through July to ensure that Congress's next relief package includes support aligned with actions that put our older adults first. In April, our national association of nonprofit senior care providers outlined [Five Essential Actions](#) to protect older Americans from COVID-19. The only way to stop this slow-motion catastrophe is to provide real relief, which includes:

- Immediate access to ample and appropriate PPE for all providers who serve older Americans.
- On demand and fully funded access to accurate and results testing for older adults and their care providers.
- Assurance that states will consider the health and safety of older Americans as they reopen.
- Funding and support for aging services providers across the continuum of care—in nursing homes, assisted living, affordable housing, hospice, or wherever they call home.
- Recognition for the heroic frontline workers who are risking their own lives serving older people during this crisis

You have a vested interest in what happens. I encourage you to contact your member of congress and urge them to make older adults a priority. It's easy to do. [**Click here**](#), read the letter and simply sign your name and press "send". Also, share our posts on social media (we're posting about this!). Your loved one is OUR PRIORITY. Let's get this done for them.

The Nightmare – by Rosanne Mondrone

As we remember our loved ones who have passed away in recent months, I thought it fitting to share with you again something written by Rosanne Mondrone, Mary Wade's Director of Community Relations. Her essays describes what life was like for our staff and residents during this challenging time. It might be hard to read for some, but her words give meaning to the lives well lived and the caregivers who battle on. [**Click here**](#) to read "The Nightmare".

Testing

Last week's test results are all back and I am pleased to report that we do not have any new positive results among our residents or our staff. This is really good news. We will be testing again this week and look forward to reporting those results to you.

Outdoor Visits – A Single Contact to Sign Up

Our outdoor visits have been very successful. Just a reminder that all visits need to be scheduled in advance. In order to streamline the scheduling process, you only need to contact Tiffany Burnham at tburnham@marywade.org for residents in both Kimberly and Boardman. Joy Rembert will be coordinating with Tiffany in these visits, but we found it's just easier to schedule through one contact.

Thank you for your time and helping us fulfill our mission every day. Just a reminder that you can contact me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810 if you have any questions or comments.

Thank you,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Family Update – Friday, July 10, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

We heard from so many of you during last Tuesday's global day of remembrance for those loved ones who lost their lives during the last few months of the pandemic. Our memorial to our Mary Wade residents is still in our Chapel and will remain there until our families are able to visit. We don't know when that will be yet, but know that we will make this special place available to all when the time is right.

Stimulus Payments

Many of you should have already received the **June 3 letter** from the CT Dept. of Social Services regarding the use of stimulus payments from the CARES Act. We wanted to be sure you all were aware of this and the use of these funds. If you have any questions, you can contact Molly Rego at mrego@marywade.org.

Testing

We are still awaiting the test results from this week. We will report our results to you as soon as they are all received.

Pop Up Pantry

Our employee Pop Up Pantry has been a huge success and I want to personally thank all of you who have contributed items or made a monetary donation. We have kept the pantry well stocked so that our staff can continue to limit their exposure and the need for frequent trips to the grocery store. Thank you again and if you wish to make a gift, [click here](#).

Outdoor Visits – A Single Contact to Sign Up

Our outdoor visits have been very successful. Just a reminder that all visits need to be scheduled in advance. In order to streamline the scheduling process, you only need to contact Tiffany Burnham at tburnham@marywade.org for residents in both Kimberly and Boardman.

Thank you again for your time and helping us fulfill our mission every day. Just a reminder that you can contact me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810 if you have any questions or comments. Thank you.

Stay well, stay safe,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Family Update – Tuesday, July 14, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

I am so happy to report that our Adult Day Center (ADC) has reopened this week. This is a limited opening and right now we are only open to members of our Boardman Residence. We have thoroughly cleaned and reorganized the space to accommodate social distancing. Everyone will be required to wear masks, conduct regular hand washings and provide hand sanitizer. Meals will be provided.

The socialization experienced at our ADC is such an important part of our resident's wellbeing and we so please that we are able to cautiously reopen to serve our members.

COVID Positive

Our resident who tested positive for COVID last week has been quarantined and is doing well. It was noted that they were asymptomatic, but we continue to treat according to the CDC, CMS and DPH guidelines for positive cases. Full Infection Control protocols are in place and continue throughout this pandemic.

Testing

We are conducting our weekly testing on Wednesday and Thursday this week of our residents and staff who previously tested negative. We will report our results to you as soon as they are all received.

PPE

In anticipation of another surge, Mary Wade is stockpiling critical supplies including personal protection equipment (PPE) such as gowns, masks, face shields, and gloves.

Thank you again for your time and helping us fulfill our mission every day. Just a reminder that you can contact me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810 if you have any questions or comments. Thank you.

Stay well, stay safe,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Family Update – Monday, July 20, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

Today, our ADC was all astir with a tropical Hawaiian theme and lots of fun and refreshments enjoyed by our members. It's great to see our residents having some fun and enjoying each other's company. To see this level of activity energizes us all. Be assured that social distancing, masks and infection control procedures based on guidelines are in place.

Outdoor Visits

Outdoor visits must be scheduled by contacting Tiffany Burnham at 203-672-7841 or tburnham@marywade.org. All visits must be scheduled and confirmed by our staff. Our staff is working hard to ensure everyone gets a time to visit with our residents. I hope you will work with them following our ***Policy and Procedures***. These guidelines are put out by the Department of Public Health and we are obligated to follow them. We know it's so hard but we need to adhere to strict social distancing requirements and face masks at all times. We appreciate your cooperation and know that the care and safety of your loved one is our primary concern and the reason why these policies are in place.

Testing

I am happy to report that everyone tested last week was negative for COVID-19. We will again be testing on Wednesday and Thursday all previously reported negative residents and staff.

Thank you for all your support and kind messages. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments or concerns. You can reach me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810. Thank you.

Stay well, stay safe,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Dear Mary Wade Families,

Topping Off Ceremony at Mary Wade

On Monday, July 27, 2020 at 10 AM at the Mary Wade Home, the Topping Off Ceremony for the new Assisted Living will be held. The ceremony is a virtual event. It is expected that there will be a minimum number of attendees, including staff, Board members and politicians. However the majority of attendees will be tuning in to live streams of the event through FaceBook and Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89766987666?pwd=cGx6RU9USE9RZzFSSWJFUk5SRmR0dz09>

Meeting ID: 897 6698 7666

Passcode: 214459

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,89766987666# US (Germantown)

+13126266799,,89766987666# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 897 6698 7666

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kbKmEswfo7>

Outdoor Visits

We continue to cautiously reopen our campus. We continue to enforce our infection control policy which includes face masks, frequent hand washing and social distancing. Outdoor visits must be scheduled by contacting Tiffany Burnham at 203-672-7841. All visits must be scheduled and confirmed by our staff. Our staff is working hard to ensure everyone gets a time to visit with our residents. In addition, we remind you to review Governor Lamont's Executive Order Regarding Travel, [Click Here](#) to read the full advisory.

Testing

I am happy to report that all of the residents tested this week had negative results for COVID-19. As of now, the staff results are not 100% in but those that have returned are negative.

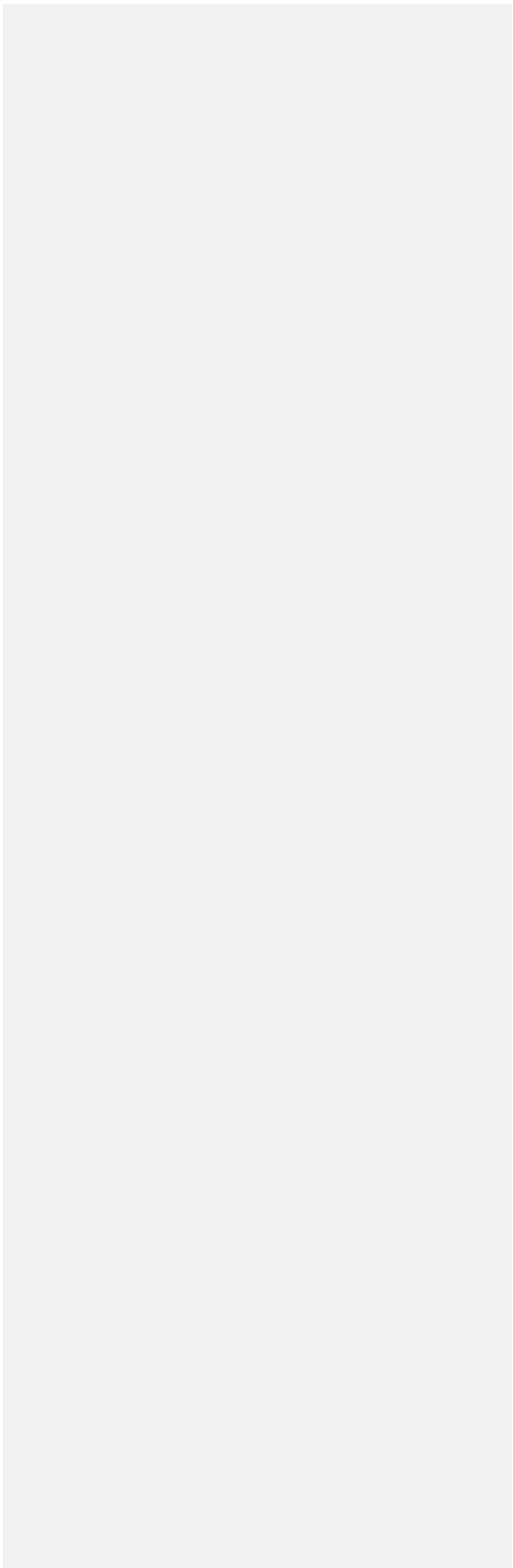
Thank you for all your support and kind messages. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments or concerns. You can reach me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810. Thank you.

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Stay well, stay safe,



Family Update – Tuesday, July 28, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

Yesterday, we celebrated the “topping off” of our new assisted living construction. It was a milestone event in our progress. While our live stream of the event was necessarily curtailed, we did tape the event and will share it with you as soon as our Marketing staff complete the editing. In the meantime, Mary Wade enjoyed some good media coverage. [Click here](#) and [here](#).

Air Filtration

As we’ve mentioned here before, we are moving forward with a multi-phase air purification project. To my knowledge, Mary Wade is the only senior living community taking such decisive steps in this direction. This initiative seeks to provide the healthiest possible air flow for our residents and employees throughout the campus. In a previous Update, I shared with you a statement from Mary Wade’s Chair of the Board of Trustees on this issue. It’s worth sharing again [here](#). I look forward to keep you updated on our progress.

Testing

I am happy to report that everyone tested last week was negative for COVID-19. According to guidance by the DPH, we may stop testing. Mary Wade has made the decision at this time, however to test every 10-14 days. Therefore, we will not be testing this week, but will test next week.

PPE in Stock

The CT Department of Health recommends that every nursing home have at least a 90-day supply of personal protection equipment (PPE) on hand in anticipation of a surge in the fall. Mary Wade is building that inventory but we are still in need of N95 masks, gowns and gloves. I mention this here in the event that you know of sources of these supplies other than our regular suppliers. If you do, please contact Stan DeCosta at sdecosta@marywade.org.

Thank you for all your support and kind messages. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments or concerns. You can reach me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810. Thank you.

Stay well, stay safe,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Family Update – Friday, July 31, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

Many of you might be planning a get-away trip in the coming weeks. Or you might know of others who would like to do the same but need someone to care for an older relative or friend while they are away. Mary Wade provides a safe and friendly Respite Program for short term stays. The Respite Program provides the perfect program for both caregiver and client. If you know of a family who could use our Respite Program, have them contact Rosanne Mondrone at rmondrone@marywade.org or 203-562-7222.

While you are away, remember to wear your mask, wash your hands frequently and practice safe distancing.

More Thoughts on the Pandemic – Moving Forward

Rosanne Mondrone, Mary Wade's Director of Community Relations, has once again expressed so eloquently what so many of us at Mary Wade are feeling. "Moving Forward" describes the impact of the pandemic and the need to work together to come to a "new norm". It's a personal journey so many of us have traveled. [Click here](#) to read Rosanne's latest essay.

Testing

I am happy to report that everyone tested last week was negative for COVID-19. According to guidance by the DPH, we may stop testing. Mary Wade has made the decision at this time, however to test every 10-14 days. Therefore, testing will resume next week.

PPE in Stock – A Reminder

The CT Department of Health recommends that every nursing home have at least a 90-day supply of personal protection equipment (PPE) on hand in anticipation of a surge in the fall. Mary Wade is building that inventory but we are still in need of N95 masks, gowns and gloves. I mention this here in the event that you know of sources of these supplies other than our regular suppliers. If you do, please contact Stan DeCosta at sdecosta@marywade.org.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments or concerns. You can reach me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810. Thank you.

Stay well, stay safe,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO