

Daily Family Update – Friday, May 1, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

Mary Wade lost another Kimberly resident who called Mary Wade home for many years. The staff join me in extended our sincere heartfelt sympathies to her family.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is an update on our COVID-19 positive cases as of today:

Boardman Residents: 11 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly; 5 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 16 residents are positive and being cared for in place here at Mary Wade; 3 residents are still in the hospital being treated for COVID-19; 7 residents are presumptive (Presumptive means that the individual displays symptoms absent of testing. It also indicates we are either waiting for a testing kit, or a physician's order for a test.)

The Nightmare by Rosanne Mondrone, Director of Community Relations

Mary Wade's Director of Community Relations, Rosanne Mondrone returned this week after being out with COVID-19. She has provided us with a wonderfully written piece on her experience and what it is like for our staff here at Mary Wade. I hope you will take a minute to read it. **Click here.**



The Great Give – Mary Wade marks 154 years of caring

Mary Wade is participating in the annual Great Give, sponsored by the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven. This year, to mark our 154 years of serving our community, our goal is to reach 154 donors or \$15,400 whichever comes first. Contributions will help to support our front line caregivers and staff, resident activities and other COVID-19 related expenses. I hope you will consider making a gift in memory/in honor of a loved one or a caregiver. You can participate by going to <https://www.thegreatgive.org/organizations/mary-wade-home>

Thank you for all your love and support for our staff and our residents. I look forward to your comments and questions which you can send to dhunter@marywade.org or call 203-672-7810.

Stay well, stay safe,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Monday, May 4, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

Our weekend at Mary Wade was filled with such awesome highs and some terrible lows. We ended this past weekend saying goodbye to four more residents from our Kimberly Long Term Care unit. Our hearts go out to their grieving families and friends. All of us join in their grief and send them our sympathies.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is an update on our COVID-19 positive cases as of today:

Boardman Residents: 12 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly; 4 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 15 residents are positive and being cared for in place here at Mary Wade; 2 residents are still in the hospital being treated for COVID-19; 8 residents are presumptive (Presumptive means that the individual displays symptoms absent of testing. It also indicates we are either waiting for a testing kit, or a physician's order for a test.)

I want to share the good news that two of our residents have recovered based on the CDC's non-test base strategy. Thank you to our great clinical team!

DPH + CDC Inspectors Visit

On Sunday, inspectors from the CT Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control made an early morning unannounced visit to Mary Wade. They confirmed that our staff was following best practice in infection control measures. They offered some useful suggestions which we have communicated with the staff.

Neighbors Come Out to Support Our Healthcare Team

On Saturday evening, the Chatham Square neighborhood gathered on Pine Street to cheer our caregivers and show their support. This outpouring of love and encouragement was truly heartwarming and was appreciated by our hardworking employees. **Click here** to see a quick video and **here** for the article in the New Haven Independent.

Instead of Sending a Pizza....A Hero's Suggestion

So many of our families have wanted to send our staff pizzas, or fruit baskets, or cookies, or ...yes, more pizza! So this suggestion just came





in from one of our staff: *“can we suggest to our families that they send a donation to support Mary Wade in honor of a particular hero or team or unit? We would ask that they write a short sentence or two about what their efforts have meant to them. We can display that in our hallway and every time our heroes pass by, they will be reminded of how appreciated they are.”*

I could not have said it better! We still have a long way to go to meet our goal of 154 donors or \$15,400 whichever comes first The Great Give campaign. When you make your gift, write your “hero thanks” in the comments section. If there is not enough room, send your comments to me or our Director of Development Lisa Hottin at lhottin@marywade.org . You can participate by going to <https://www.thegreatgive.org/organizations/mary-wade-home>

Thank you for all your love and support for our staff and our residents. I look forward to your comments and questions which you can send to dhunter@marywade.org or call 203-672-7810.

With gratitude,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

Happy Cinco de Mayo! Our Recreational Therapy Team was coming around with their Margarita cart today for our residents to celebrate the holiday. This is always a fun celebration at Mary Wade and our team made sure this year was no exception.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is an update on our COVID-19 positive cases as of today:

Boardman Residents: 13 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly; 3 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 15 residents are positive and being cared for in place here at Mary Wade; 2 residents are still in the hospital being treated for COVID-19; 9 residents are presumptive (Presumptive means that the individual displays symptoms absent of testing. It also indicates we are either waiting for a testing kit, or a physician's order for a test.)

Testing

Over the next two days, beginning Wednesday, we will be testing all residents of our Kimberly skilled nursing floors and Boardman Residence. If residents have already been tested and were positive for Coronavirus, they will not be tested. We have partnered with Fair Haven Community Health Center (FHCH) to conduct the testing to effectively identify, treat and reduce the incidence of virus spread. The DPH has provided the swabs and test kits, which previous to this have been in short supply, thus limiting our testing capabilities.

With our new testing protocols we will reach a new milestone in battling this pandemic. This is a positive and necessary approach in reducing the number of new cases at Mary Wade.

Honoring Our Heroes

Thank you to those who have already supported our goal in this year's The Great Give. Some have even made their gifts in honor of our Mary Wade Heroes. The campaign ends Wednesday, May 6 at 6pm so I hope you will take a moment and thank a caregiver at Mary Wade. Visit our page at <https://www.thegreatgive.org/organizations/mary-wade-home>

Thank you for your trust and support and I look forward to a hopeful tomorrow for us all. Don't forget that you can contact me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810.

With gratitude,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Wednesday, May 6, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

COVID-19 Positives

As I mentioned in yesterday's Update, testing was conducted today on our residents who have not previously tested positive for the virus. We expect to receive the results of testing within 24 hours. As a result, our reporting will change to reflect the results of all residents tested. We anticipate that the number of COVID-19 positive residents will increase.

The following is an update on our COVID-19 positive cases as of today:

Boardman Residents: 13 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly; 3 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 15 residents are positive and being cared for in place here at Mary Wade; 3 residents are in the hospital being treated for COVID-19; 9 residents are presumptive (Presumptive means that the individual displays symptoms absent of testing. It also indicates we are either waiting for a testing kit, or a physician's order for a test.)

Grief Support for Families

We have partnered with CT Mental Health Specialists to offer a Grief Support Group meeting for our families. We have offered four similar meetings to our staff who have felt it was very beneficial. I participated on one of the calls as well and it has helped to better understand and recognize the grief we all need to express. The Zoom meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 13 at 5:00pm. Please email Krista Casso at kcasso@marywade.org to reserve your spot.

Thank you for your trust and support and I look forward to a hopeful tomorrow for us all. Don't forget that you can contact me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810.

With gratitude,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Thursday, May 7, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

After two full days of no reported deaths, I am sorry to report that one of our Kimberly residents passed away this morning. We mourn their passing and wish to convey our sympathy to the family.

Testing Update

Yesterday we tested all of our residents, with the exception of those that have already tested positive for COVID-19. As we receive the results, we will be contacting families as we always do. This widespread testing means that all of our residents, both in our Kimberly skilled nursing unit as well as in our Boardman Residential Care home, will have now been tested. Mary Wade is the first nursing home in the state to conduct testing on all its residents. We have taken this step in order to control the spread of the virus, more effectively care for our residents, and better deploy our staff. We could not have done this without the support and supplies provided by the DPH, the collaboration with Fair Haven Community Health Center and the rapid turn around time performed by Quest Diagnostics Laboratory.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is an update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 13 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly; 3 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 15 residents are positive and being cared for in place here at Mary Wade; 3 residents are in the hospital being treated for COVID-19

Flowers for Mothers Day

Thank you to [C.K. Greenhouses](#) (Cheshire) and [Lowes](#) who have partnered to donate hanging flower baskets for Mothers Day. They have helped to brighten everyone's spirits.

REMINDER: Grief Support for Families

Save the date for Wednesday, May 13 at 5:00 p.m. We have partnered with CT Mental Health Specialists to offer a Grief Support Group meeting for our families. Please email Krista Casso at kcasso@marywade.org to reserve your spot.

I welcome your questions and comments. Please email me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810.

With gratitude,
David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Friday, May 8, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

Early this morning we lost another long term resident from our Kimberly skilled nursing unit. Our hearts go out to their family and we send our heartfelt condolences on our combined loss.

Testing Update

Over the last 48 hours we have received the testing results of our Kimberly and Boardman residents and began calling all families regarding the results. You will notice that with today's COVID-19 reporting below, the numbers have increased due to these new results. We are still collecting the results on our staff testing and look forward to reporting to you on Monday regarding these results.

Cohorting

As a result of the universal testing conducted on our residents, we implemented a plan of cohorting positive and negative patients. Cohorting refers to the grouping of individuals or patients with like illness (in this case test results). With the guidance of the CDC and DPH, we've divided the building into four sections: a positive, a negative, an exposed and a recovered. We moved two Kimberly residents to the "recovered" section today on Kimberly 1. All positive residents are cohorted on Kimberly 2; our residents who tested negative are isolated on Kimberly I. The negative, exposed and recovered on Kimberly 1 are separated by fire doors. Boardman Residents who tested negative continue to remain in their apartments.

I am very happy to report that two of our residents are recovered and have returned to their rooms in the Boardman Residence. Happy day for them and our staff!

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 12 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
9 residents tested positive through this week's point prevalence testing and are isolated in their rooms in Boardman. These residents are asymptomatic and are being monitored for any changes in condition.
2 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 12 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
17 residents tested positive through this week's point prevalence testing and being cared for in Kimberly 2. Most are asymptomatic and are being monitored for any changes in condition.
3 residents are in the hospital being treated for COVID-19

Mothers Day

Our tireless Recreation Therapy staff have planned special Mother's Day activities over the next few days including haircuts/styling, tea and biscuits, and the regular schedule of family video calls. We wish all our Mothers a very Happy Mother's Day and look forward when can celebrate again together.

An Apology

Yesterday's Family Update showed a photograph of some of our staff taken in front of our main entrance under our "Heroes Work Here" banner. At the time the photo was taken in early March when guidelines were just emerging regarding social distancing or universally wearing masks. So much has changed since that time. I want to apologize if that photo was misleading and wish to emphasize that at Mary Wade, we strictly adhere to tight infection control standards recommended by the CDC and the DPH. We will ensure that all photography reflect our current practices or provide a disclaimer when necessary.

Thank you again for your words of encouragement. I believe it is better to share the facts with you, our families, as it alleviates the stress and anxieties of the times we're living through. I hope you agree. Let me know what you think by contacting me at dhunter@marywade.org or at 203-672-7810.

With gratitude,
David V. Hunter, President & CEO

P.S. REMINDER: Grief Support for Families

Save the date for Wednesday, May 13 at 5:00 p.m. We have partnered with CT Mental Health Specialists to offer a Grief Support Group meeting for our families. Please email Krista Casso at kcasso@marywade.org to reserve your spot.

Daily Family Update – Monday, May 11, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

This week we celebrate National Nursing Home Week and I can't think of a better time to spotlight the importance and the work of our nation's nursing homes. We recognize our residents and celebrate our employees for the care, compassion and love they bring. Residents will be experiencing a new country every day (today was Italy and tomorrow is Ireland) led by our Recreational Therapy Team. Staff will be recognized with a special gift during the week and a surprise luncheon/dinner. I couldn't be prouder of this team of heroes and salute them.

Last week I had an opportunity to talk about Mary Wade in a podcast hosted by Michael Romei, journalist Trish Sanborn, and Frederick Bigler. A longtime friend of Mary Wade, Mr. Romei is the former Chief Concierge of the Waldorf Astoria & Towers and is currently Director Concierge Services at Casa Cipriani. He is the Founder of Creating Service Magic. His podcast "Concierge Chats" focuses on a variety of different industries and amidst the current pandemic, Mr. Romei wanted to help Mary Wade spread our message. The podcast can be viewed [here](#).

Ventilation in Kimberly

In recent discussions with the CDC and the DPH, we have explored the issue of ventilation within the nursing home in contributing to the spread of any active virus or contaminate. There have not been any definitive studies or testing regarding facility ventilation in relation to the spread of Coronavirus. But, Mary Wade is taking a proactive approach which we believe will make our environment healthier. We have met with our engineers and HVAC contractor to explore this issue and will be making adjustments as follows:

1. Increasing the flow of fresh air into rooms and common spaces throughout the Kimberly unit
2. Reviewing air filter efficiency and adjusting for maximum effectiveness
3. Increasing the exhaust outflow in all bathrooms

These adjustments can all be made without entering resident's rooms or baths.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 11 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
9 residents tested positive through this week's point prevalence testing and are isolated in their rooms in Boardman. These residents are asymptomatic and are being monitored for any changes in condition.
2 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 29 residents tested positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2;

3 residents are in the hospital being treated for COVID-19

Grief Support for Families

Save the date for Wednesday, May 13 at 5:00 p.m. We have partnered with CT Mental Health Specialists to offer a Grief Support Group meeting for our families. Please email Krista Casso at kcasso@marywade.org to reserve your spot.

Alzheimer's Support Group Meeting

Our Alzheimer's Support Group will be meeting on Wednesday, May 13 at 10 a.m. Contact Gail Donahue at gdonahue@marywade.org to register. These meetings have been a great resource for our families whose loved ones suffer with Alzheimer's disease or other dementia.

Thank you again for your support of Mary Wade and allowing us to care for your loved one. Let me know what you think by contacting me at dhunter@marywade.org or at 203-672-7810.

With gratitude,
David V. Hunter, President & CEO

P.S. I receive more than 100 emails each day, in the event that you emailed me and haven't received a response, please resend to me. I apologize for any emails that have gone unanswered if any.

Daily Family Update – Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 10 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
9 residents tested positive through this week's point prevalence testing and are isolated in their rooms in Boardman. These residents are asymptomatic and are being monitored for any changes in condition.
2 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 29 residents tested positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2;
3 residents are in the hospital being treated for COVID-19

Final Reminder: Grief Support for Families

Save the date for Wednesday, May 13 at 5:00 p.m. We have partnered with CT Mental Health Specialists to offer a Grief Support Group meeting for our families. You can join the video conference or by phone. To join the Zoom Meeting, go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5588283446> or call in: 1-415-762-9988; Meeting ID #: 558 828 3446 #

Alzheimer's Support Group Meeting Tomorrow

Our Alzheimer's Support Group will be meeting on Wednesday, May 13 at 10 a.m. Contact Gail Donahue at gdonahue@marywade.org to register.

Thank you again for your support of Mary Wade and allowing us to care for your loved one. Let me know what you think by contacting me at dhunter@marywade.org or at 203-672-7810.

With gratitude,
David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Wednesday, May 13, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 10 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
9 residents tested positive through this week's point prevalence testing and are isolated in their rooms in Boardman. These residents are asymptomatic and are being monitored for any changes in condition.
2 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 29 residents tested positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2;
3 residents are in the hospital being treated for COVID-19

Recoveries

Because I believe we all need some good news, I wanted to share with you the number of our residents who have recovered from COVID-19. I am happy to report that to date, 6 of our Boardman Residents have returned to Boardman and 4 Kimberly residents have fully recovered. This is cause for celebration and we are so happy for their families and most especially for our residents!

Don't forget, you can reach me at dhunter@marywade.org or 203-672-7810 for my direct line. I welcome the opportunity to connect with our families and want you to know how much your encouragement and support means to each and every one of us at Mary Wade.

Stay safe, stay well,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Thursday, May 14, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

National Nursing Home week continues to be celebrated “internationally” by our residents. Yesterday they “traveled” to Puerto Rico and enjoyed some rice and beans prepared by our own Care Plan Coordinator, Mallery Rivera, L.P.N. Today, our residents enjoyed some pierogis in their “trip” to Poland. Our staff were feted with some good old fashioned American hot dogs cooked outside by our tireless Food Services staff.

Our neighbors of the Chatham Square Neighborhood Association continue to come out every Wednesday and Saturday evening on Pine Street to cheer and support Mary Wade. They also added the banner shown in this Update. We are so encouraged and grateful for their support.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 8 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
9 residents tested positive through last week’s point prevalence testing and are isolated in their rooms in Boardman. These residents are asymptomatic and are being monitored for any changes in condition. If by Saturday, they continue to be asymptomatic, they will be considered “recovered” based on CDC guidelines.
1 resident are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 29 residents tested positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2;
2 residents are in the hospital being treated for COVID-19

Recoveries

This is quickly becoming my most favorite reporting statistic. Today, 4 more residents have recovered from the virus (2 Boardman residents and 2 Kimberly residents). That brings us to a total of 14 residents who have recovered from COVID-19 (total: 8 Boardman residents; 6 Kimberly residents).

Don’t forget, you can reach me at dhunter@marywade.org or 203-672-7810 for my direct line. I welcome the opportunity to connect with our families and want you to know how much your encouragement and support means to each and every one of us at Mary Wade.

Stay safe, stay well,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Friday, May 15, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

As the warmer weather approaches, I'm beginning to see more residents enjoying the gardens. It's truly heartwarming to see them outdoors. I know Stan DeCosta and his staff are working to ensure that as many of our well residents as possible are able to enjoy the outdoors.

At the same time, I remember those who have passed and know how much they too enjoyed our gardens. They are in my daily prayers.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 5 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
9 residents tested positive through last week's point prevalence testing and are isolated in their rooms in Boardman. These residents are asymptomatic and are being monitored for any changes in condition. If by tomorrow (May 16), they continue to be asymptomatic, they will be considered "recovered" based on CDC guidelines.
1 resident is in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 24 residents tested positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2;
2 residents are in the hospital being treated for COVID-19

Recoveries

It is a joy to report that we now count a total of 18 residents have recovered from the Coronavirus (10 Boardman; 8 Kimberly).

More Testing Scheduled

On Monday and Tuesday of next week, with the assistance of the Fair Haven Community Health Care and Quest Diagnostic Labs, we will again be testing all residents and staff who have been previously tested negative for COVID-19. This "point prevalence testing" has led us to effectively cohort our residents to reduce the rate of infection.

After only one week, staff are reporting encouraging signs of a turnaround. We, however, are far from out of the proverbial woods and continue to adhere to strict guidelines and policy put out by the CDC and DPH.

Save the Date – Friday, May 22

Next Friday would have been our annual Fair Haven Community Parade. Our residents all look forward to that yearly event when the neighborhood children and marching bands parade by

Mary Wade and the neighbors and clowns come out to entertain and march along. Because there continues to be a ban on such gatherings, we are planning a “car parade” that will proceed along the parade route and up Pine Street to wave to residents and staff from participants decorated cars, motor cycles and trucks. Why don’t you join us? I’ll share more information as it gets closer to the date. In the meantime, if you have any questions, contact Krista Casso at kcasso@marywade.org or Kara Hunter at khunter@marywade.org.

Thank you again for your support and trust and especially for allowing us to care for your loved ones. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a question or idea, I loved to hear from you at dhunter@marywade.org or 203-672-7810 for my direct line.

Have a safe and joyful weekend,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Monday, May 18, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

On Sunday, we said goodbye to one of our Kimberly residents who passed away peacefully. They will be in our thoughts and prayers and we extend our heartfelt sympathy to their family and friends.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 4 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
1 resident is in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 24 residents tested positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2;
1 resident is still in the hospital being treated for COVID-19

Recoveries

The 9 Boardman residents who tested positive through the initial point prevalence testing on May 6, are now considered “recovered” based on CDC guidelines. These residents were asymptomatic and exhibited no change in their condition after being monitored for 10 days. In addition to those 9 residents, I’m pleased to report that additional 2 residents recovered today: 1 Boardman resident and 1 Kimberly resident. So I am happy to report that we now count a total of 29 residents recovered from the Coronavirus (20 Boardman; 9 Kimberly). Of course, all recovered residents continue to be monitored.

Outdoor Family Visits

While we are still unable to open our doors to visitors, as per orders of the DPH, we are looking into setting up outdoor visits with family. Stan DeCosta is working with our Recreational Therapy Department to ensure the safety of our residents and visitors alike. Once a plan is in place, we look forward to sharing it with you and to begin scheduling those visits.

Save the Date – Friday, May 22

If you plan on joining our Parade, [click here](#) for more information. Or, contact Krista Casso at kcasso@marywade.org or Kara Hunter at khunter@marywade.org. I hope you will join us on Friday to celebrate Mary Wade and cheer our residents and staff.

Thank you again for your support and trust and especially for allowing us to care for your loved ones. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a question or idea, I loved to hear from you at dhunter@marywade.org or 203-672-7810 for my direct line.

Be safe, be well,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

While I don't like to count chickens before they hatch, I feel like we might be turning a corner. Staff are reporting that they are seeing a positive change in our residents. They seem to be finding their way back to familiar routines. They are seeing more smiles and hearing more laughter on the floors. To me, these are good signs.

Another good sign is that tomorrow will mark the beginning of Phase 1 of CT's reopening. It's a step in a positive direction even though senior care communities are still closed to visitors. Our residents will enjoy increased access to our gardens, wearing their masks and practicing strict social distancing. As I mentioned yesterday, we are putting plans in place to allow limited outdoor visits. As soon as that plan is finalized we will be sharing it with you.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 4 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
2 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 21 residents tested positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2;
1 resident is still in the hospital being treated for COVID-19

Recoveries

Three of our Kimberly residents recovered today bringing our total recovered to 32 residents (20 Boardman; 12 Kimberly). All recovered residents continue to be monitored.

Save the Date – Friday, May 22

I am looking forward to Friday's car parade and it sounds like it's going to be quite an event. I hope to see you there. [Click here](#) for more information or contact Krista Casso at kcasso@marywade.org or Kara Hunter at khunter@marywade.org.

Thank you again for your support and trust and especially for allowing us to care for your loved ones. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a question or idea, I loved to hear from you at dhunter@marywade.org or 203-672-7810 for my direct line.

Be safe, be well,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Wednesday, May 20, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

I hope this update finds you all well and staying safe as our nation begins to slowly reopen. Today marked Connecticut's official Phase 1 Reopening which I mentioned yesterday. While other businesses are gradually opening with restrictions, Mary Wade continues to enforce our quarantine protocols until the CDC, CMS and DPH change their guidelines for nursing homes and assisted living.

Testing Update

There is some very good news that our testing partner Fair Haven Community Health Care has shared with us today. We conducted our second round of point prevalence survey testing (PPS) on Monday. We tested residents who have previously tested "negative" and all staff. Out of 193 individuals tested, only two residents tested positive. This represents less than 2% incidence as compared with our first round of testing on May 6 that resulted in 22% of the 207 total individuals tested. FHCHC noted that "results thus far are impressive to say the least." We agree!

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 3 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
2 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 19 residents are positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2;
1 resident is still in the hospital being treated for COVID-19

Recoveries

Five of our residents recovered today bringing our total recovered to 37 residents (21 Boardman; 16 Kimberly). All recovered residents continue to be monitored.

Ben & Jerry's

Residents and staff enjoyed a visit from Ben & Jerry's ice cream today thanks to the generosity of Mitchell Wollen and his family. Mitchell is a sophomore at Xavier High School who has started a nonprofit that makes signs in support of healthcare workers. From the sales of the signs, they donate the proceeds to benefit the staff of local hospitals or nursing homes while at the same time supporting local businesses. Thanks to Mitchell and his family for sharing the love! Check out Mitchell's story [here](#) and [here](#).

Save the Date – Friday, May 22

Remember, this Friday is our car parade to cheer our residents and staff. [Click here](#) for more information or contact Krista Casso at kcasso@marywade.org or Kara Hunter at khunter@marywade.org.

Thank you again for your support and trust and especially for allowing us to care for your loved ones. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a question or idea, I loved to hear from you at dhunter@marywade.org or 203-672-7810 for my direct line.

Be safe, be well,
David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Thursday, May 21, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

Every day brings some good news which I for one am so grateful and I know you are as well. You will see in our COVID-19 Positives section that all of our Kimberly residents are out of the hospital! Also, we continue to report newly recovered residents; each one being cause for celebration.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 3 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
2 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 16 residents are positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2;
0 Kimberly residents in the hospital!!

Recoveries

Three Kimberly residents recovered today bringing our total recovered to 40 residents (21 Boardman; 19 Kimberly). All recovered residents continue to be monitored.

Crisis Support / Grief Counseling Session

We are hosting our second online Crisis Support / Grief Counseling Session next Wednesday, May 28 at 5:00 p.m. These sessions are conducted by CT Mental Health Specialists. More information to follow as the date gets closer.

Family Outdoor Visits

Staff will be reaching out to families to begin to schedule out door visits with residents. For the safety of our residents and their families, only residents who have recovered or tested negative will be participating. We hope to begin these scheduled visits the week of June 1.

See You Tomorrow! – Friday, May 22

We're already counting at least 30 vehicles signed up for our car parade to cheer our residents and staff. Do doubt more will be joining us. We'll have a police escort and as many of our recovered residents as possible plan to wear their masks and either view it from their windows or take their assigned seat outdoors (weather permitting). Vehicles will begin to line up at 10:30 a.m at Chatham Square Park with a 11:00 a.m. start time. [Click here](#) for more information or contact Krista Casso at kcasso@marywade.org or Kara Hunter at khunter@marywade.org.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a question or idea, I loved to hear from you at dhunter@marywade.org or 203-672-7810 for my direct line.

Most sincerely,
David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

I'm sorry to report that we witnessed the passing of two of our residents over the long holiday weekend. All of us at Mary Wade mourn each of these residents and convey our sincere condolences to their families.

I encourage you to participate in the Family Crisis Support and Grief Counseling scheduled for tomorrow at 5:00 p.m. The call-in information is noted below.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 6 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;
0 residents are in the hospital.

Kimberly Residents: 16 residents are positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2;
0 Kimberly residents in the hospital!!

The Recovery – Observations

Once again Rosanne Mondrone, Mary Wade's Director of Community Relations, poignantly describes the importance of "hope" as we turn a corner in our battle against the spread of the Coronavirus. **Click here** to read her latest article in this series.

Pop Up Pantry Update

Our Pop Up Pantry has been a huge success thanks to your generosity. It has been restocked twice and our staff are enjoying the convenience and variety it has to offer. Thank you again for helping our Heroes.

Crisis Support / Grief Counseling Session

Just a reminder that we are hosting our second online Crisis Support / Grief Counseling Session tomorrow, Wednesday, May 27 at 5:00 p.m. These sessions are conducted by CT Mental Health Specialists. The call in information is:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5588283446?pwd=RFkwMG1pWmNRa0ovb3g5SFIDcjZ4dz09>

Meeting ID: 558 828 3446

As always, thank you for entrusting the care of your loved one with Mary Wade. Don't forget to contact me if you have a question or idea at dhunter@marywade.org or 203-672-7810.

Most sincerely,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

One of the things that keeps me up at night is the plan to “reopen” and the possibility of another spike in Coronavirus infections. Mary Wade is planning ahead, but we’d prefer not to have to go down this path again.

Someone shared with me what I think is an excellent explanation on the “new normal” and what is our responsibility to avoid a “second wave”. The video was produced by two PhD candidates at Yale, Clara Liao (Neuroscience) and Mary Petrone (Public Health). [Click here](#) to view the video “*What’s Next With COVID-19: New Normal or Second Wave? – An Illustrated Summary*”.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 6 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2;

Kimberly Residents: 14 residents are positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2;

Family Outdoor Visits

If you haven’t already, you will be receiving a call from staff to schedule your family outdoor visit. We hope to begin these 40 minute visitations next week. We are awaiting the delivery of a clear, plexiglass-type wall that will separate our resident from family members. All visitors will be required to wear masks, as will our residents, and visits will be limited to 40 minutes to accommodate everyone and allow for staff availability. Only residents who have tested negative or have recovered will be permitted family visits. If you have any questions, you can contact Stan DeCosta at sdecosta@marywade.org.

Thank you for your kinds words of support and hope. Please do not hesitate to contact me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810.

Stay safe,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Thursday, May 28, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

Early this afternoon, under cloudy skies, the final girder was set in place on our new assisted living residence. It was painted gold and had the signatures of our staff, Board members and some of our neighbors. It represented another milestone as we look ahead with optimism and hope in the future. Our official Topping-Off Ceremony will take place on June 25. You will hear more about that in the weeks to come. [Click here](#) to watch today's activity.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 6 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2

Kimberly Residents: 11 residents are positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2

Cohorting and Room Changes

In recent days, we have arrived at that marker where the number of residents who have recovered outnumber the number of residents who are testing positive with symptoms. This a very good sign and we're looking forward to working towards a Coronavirus-free facility. In order to cohort to best accommodate the changing numbers, we are conducting room changes and returning resident to their regular rooms where we can. We are trying to make these changes as smoothly as possible for our residents.

Family Outdoor Visits – AN UPDATE

In yesterday's communication we thought outdoor visits would be 40 minutes. The timeframe of the visit is actually 20 minutes, due to the number of visits to schedule in any given day. Also, we would like you to contact Tiffany Burnham (tburnham@marywade.org) for residents in Kimberly and Joy Rembert (jrembert@marywade.org) for residents in Boardman to schedule your visit. We plan on scheduling visits Monday through Friday 10AM-3PM and on weekends but with variable times. It is important to schedule your visits early enough in advance, ideally by Friday of the previous week. Also, we just learned that the delivery of the plexiglass divider to accommodate these visits will not be arriving until mid-June the earliest. We will continue to keep you updated on these developments.

Thank you again for reaching out with your comments and concerns. You can continue to contact me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810.

Stay safe,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO

Daily Family Update – Friday, May 29, 2020

Dear Mary Wade Families,

I hope these emails have helped to keep you informed and knowledgeable about your loved one. Throughout, we have strived to be transparent, emphasizing our commitment to the health and safety of our residents. It is our mission and our greatest priority.

Thank you for continuing to being a partner with us and we look forward to continuing to provide you with these Daily Updates.

COVID-19 Positives

The following is a current update on our COVID-19 positive cases:

Boardman Residents: 5 residents are positive and being cared for in Kimberly 2

Kimberly Residents: 2 residents are positive and are being cared for in Kimberly 2

Family Window Visits

Since our Family Outdoor Visits won't begin until later in June, we can accommodate "window visits". You can contact Tiffany Burnham (tburnham@marywade.org) for residents in Kimberly and Joy Rembert (jrembert@marywade.org) for residents in Boardman to schedule your visit. We will continue to keep you updated on the outdoor visits developments.

I look forward to updating you again next Monday. You can continue to contact me at dhunter@marywade.org or by phone at 203-672-7810.

Stay safe,

David V. Hunter, President & CEO