

Dear Loved Ones of Residents:

Thank you for everything you do to protect yourself and our residents from getting COVID-19. As many of you know, residents of long-term care facilities are among those now being offered COVID-19 vaccines. Making sure residents receive COVID-19 vaccinations early will help in preventing the spread of the virus and save lives. Because many residents have underlying health conditions and live in group settings, they are at higher risk of infection and severe illness from COVID-19. Our residents matter to us and getting vaccinated is an important step to prevent them from getting sick with COVID-19 disease.

To offer convenient access to the vaccine, we have partnered with Forum Pharmacy to provide on-site COVID-19 vaccinations for residents and staff free of charge. We have been very successful at vaccinating our residents and our staff. We are now opening up the clinics to family and friends of residents and staff to encourage vaccination among those who may not have access otherwise.

We are holding vaccine clinics every 3 weeks here at River Bluff and would like to extend the offer for vaccination to you. We currently provide the Pfizer vaccine and will provide both the required vaccinations to all who want them. If you are interested in receiving the vaccine, please contact

Candy Manning 815-921-9260 or Pat McDiarmid 815-921-9205

We understand you may have questions about the vaccine. Information can be found on the CDC website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/safety-of-vaccines.html>

COVID-19 vaccines are an important tool to help stop the pandemic. However, even after vaccination, everyone in the facility will continue following *all the current guidance* to protect themselves and others, including wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet away from others, following facility guidance on visitation and infection control, and cleaning hands often.

CDC and IDPH are frequently updating guidance for vaccinated vs unvaccinated residents and family members. We follow these guidelines close and update our policies to reflect the changes.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-after-vaccination.html>

Thank you again for all you are doing to keep yourself and your family members safe. We will continue to update you on any new information about COVID-19 vaccination. Please contact us with additional questions at pmcdiarmid@wincoil.us or cmanning@wincoil.us

We are in this together!

Sincerely, Pat McDiarmid, Administrator