



November 20, 2020

In this season of Thanksgiving, we at Elder Care Alliance are grateful for the residents and team members of each of our communities. Together, we have built beautiful, rich and diverse communities, a gift in the midst of the challenges of the pandemic.

Nearing the end of 2020, our fight against COVID-19 continues. Our nation and our State is seeing a third surge in the virus at some of the highest levels seen. This holiday season, we urge all of us to be safe, limit gatherings, wear masks, and practice social distancing and good hand hygiene. Our main priority at Elder Care Alliance remains the safety of our residents and team members.

We continue to fight the spread of this virus through strong infection control protocols and have contingency plans in place in the event of an outbreak.

- Each of our communities has developed a surge plan tailored to their specific needs.
- In the event of an outbreak, team members have been working on cross-training to support one another.
- ECA has an agreement in place with a specialized staffing agency to ensure our communities remain fully staffed and resident care is not affected.
- At least 25% of our team members are being tested each week with a 100% testing rate monthly, performing more testing in settings or counties that require it.
- We are in weekly contact with local Departments of Public Health to ensure all guidelines are followed as they are updated.
- Since April, ECA has implemented a centralized PPE sourcing and fulfillment center to ensure our communities have 90 days' worth of supplies in case of a surge.
- We are prepared to have our buildings thoroughly disinfected by Blue-Sky if needed. In addition, Blue-Sky specializes in setting up COVID units to cohort positive residents.

Elder Care Alliance is humbled and blessed by the work of our team members who are tireless in their dedication to our residents and one another – even as they carry the care and stresses of their own families. Their passion and positive attitude are on display every day, living out our core values of dignity and caring.

We have been fortunate to have no positive cases in any of our communities for the last two and a half months. As of November 20, most of our counties are in the "widespread" purple tier. While in these tiers, all in-person family visits remain paused. Window and virtual visits for family and friends continue.

a network of professional, faith-centered care communities

(510) 769-2700 • FAX (510) 769-2706 • 1301 Marina Village Parkway Suite 210 • Alameda, CA 94501



Recent encouraging news is the nearing of a COVID vaccine approval. Several potential products are in Phase 3 trials, which is the final step before FDA Emergency Authorization. A vaccine could be available for distribution to at-risk populations like ours as early as January, so planning has begun at the federal, state, and local level – and here at ECA. We have a team and project plan to support the distribution of an authorized, safe vaccine when available. We will continue to keep our team members, residents, and families up-to-date as we learn more.

We also want to take this opportunity to let you know there are several ways you can help us in our mission of serving older adults. As a non-profit organization, we welcome contributions to our various initiatives. If you are interested in donating, please look at giving opportunities at the following websites:

Mercy Brown Bag Program (help us feed more low-income seniors): <https://mercybrownbag.org/>

Charitable Care Program (help residents who have outlived their financial assets):

<https://eldercarealliance.org/giving/>

COVID Response Fund (help ECA cover the over \$1.2M in COVID-related costs):

<https://www.givingeca.org>

###