



August 5, 2021

Dear Residents and Family Members,

Due to the recent reemergence of the COVID-19 virus caused primarily by the new “Delta” variant, it has become necessary for communities such as ours to alter their safety policies. As you know, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently issued new mask wearing guidelines in areas with substantial or high coronavirus spread, such as our region. Their recommendations were based in large part on the growing number of breakthrough COVID-19 infections (vaccinated individuals testing positive for the virus). Recent data indicate that unvaccinated and vaccinated individuals infected by COVID-19 carry roughly the same viral load, which is a key reason why mask wearing in indoor communal spaces is so important.

Many residents, family members, and future residents have been contacting The Pines regarding this new public health situation. The Pines has also been in daily contact with Board members, peer organizations, Residents’ Association leadership, and health experts to determine what policy changes can best protect members of The Pines’ community. As a result, we have prepared a comprehensive response, outlined on the attached document, which includes new vaccination requirements for staff, residents and future residents moving into The Pines this fall. The Pines also strongly urges residents to limit their visitors to people who are fully vaccinated. This vaccination policy is described in the attached document in greater detail.

Also, The Pines has recently issued an update regarding mask requirements for staff, residents, future residents, visitors, and vendors. These requirements are outlined on the attachment as well.

I appreciate the helpful feedback that residents and family members have provided throughout this fluid time period. Thank you for your role in helping us safeguard all members of The Pines.

Sincerely,

Vernon M. Baker
President/CEO