



## COVID-19 Update

August 21, 2020

Over the last weekend, one of our residents at Bethany Center passed away due to COVID-19. We send our heartfelt condolences to the Bethany Center community as they mourn this loss.

With the heat, fires, and smoke in the air on top of COVID-19, it has not been an easy week. The COVID-19 Task Force will include fire dangers as part of our regular review. Covia's communities, in consultation with Grant Edelstone, our Senior Director of Risk Management, are working to modify our existing plans for evacuation in case of a fire emergency to include additional infection prevention. Although our communities are not currently in danger from the wildfires throughout California, some of our team members have needed to evacuate from their homes. We encourage everyone to prepare or modify your go-bag. See page 2 of this update for guidance on what you might wish to include.

On Wednesday at the Resident Leadership Summit, representatives from our five Life Plan Communities shared their concerns about staying connected with one another during the pandemic. One solution close at hand is Covia's Well Connected program. Well Connected and Well Connected Español are phone and online communities offering activities, education, friendly conversation, and an assortment of discussion and support groups for (and most often led by) older adults. The next session starts on September 1. You can register or find out more at <https://covia.org/services/well-connected/>.

On Thursday, Ron Schaefer, Covia's Chief Operating Officer, announced that our Support Services team would continue to work remotely at least until January 2021 and possibly longer, depending on what happens over the next few months. We will be working with all Support Services team members to ensure they are able to work successfully from home for the duration.

Thank you to everyone who shared a photo of yourself wearing a mask last week. And thank you for continuing to make the daily choices that will prevent the spread of COVID-19: staying home except for essential business; wearing a mask or face covering each time you go out; not going where there are large gatherings; maintaining at least 6 feet of distance between yourself and others; and washing your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water whenever you return home. Each of these small choices can make all the difference to the lives of those around you.



## Go Bag Essentials

Prepare a bag *now* that you can grab and go in case of an emergency evacuation. Here's a list of some essential items to include:

- A complete change of clothes, including comfortable shoes.
- Copies of important paperwork, such as your driver's license, social security card, birth certificate, and marriage license.
- Insurance policy numbers and agency contact information.
- Enough of your prescription medicine to last you for 7 days.
- Record of medical conditions, allergies, and current medications, stored in a waterproof container.
- Additional eyeglasses and hearing aid batteries.
- Flashlight and batteries.
- Phone charger and back-up power for medical devices (Concentrator, CPAP, etc).
- Additional cash.
- A small first aid kit.
- Hand sanitizer and other hygiene items.
- Masks or face coverings.

In addition, make your plan now on where you would go in case of an emergency evacuation and be sure to know what your community's plans include, whether it's to shelter-in-place, meet at assembly points, or evacuate. Planning now means you will be ready – just in case!