



## COVID-19 Update

October 2, 2020

As you may be aware, we had to evacuate Spring Lake Village and Friends House in Santa Rosa very late last Sunday night and through the early Monday morning hours. The Glass Fire, which as of this writing is only 6% contained, came to the very edge of the Spring Lake Village campus. Both campuses are covered in ash and have sustained varying levels of smoke damage, but do not appear to have suffered structural damage. We are providing regular updates on our website at <https://covia.org/blog/fire-update/>.

We want to thank the Friends House and Spring Lake Village employees for their heroic efforts during the evacuation. Health Care Administrator Kris Hermanson shared how staff showed up in the middle of the night to assist in any way they could. “We can never thank them enough,” she said. Thank you to Kris, SLV Executive Director Michael Cataldo, and FH Executive Director Clara Allen for their leadership.

The evacuation efforts were made more difficult due to the COVID-19 pandemic, delaying our ability to transfer some of our residents into Assisted Living, Memory Care, and Skilled Nursing Facilities. St. Paul’s Towers was immediately able to take our most frail and vulnerable residents who arrived at 3 am on Monday morning. Due to government restrictions on emergency transfers, the last of our Assisted Living residents were finally admitted to a community on Thursday. We are relieved all of our residents are now in more established locations, and hope all will be able to return home soon.

If any Spring Lake Village or Friends House residents need to move from their current living situation, they may still move to the Residence Inn Downtown Sacramento. Currently about 80 residents are staying in rooms there, thanks to emergency arrangements made by Chris Ichien, VP of Life Plan Operations. Staff are also on site, doing wellness checks, delivering meals, and providing other support.

It is our priority to respond to the phone calls and emails we receive with questions related to the fire and evacuation. If you have questions or concerns related to the evacuation, you can reach Spring Lake Village by calling 707-538-8400 or email [info@covia.org](mailto:info@covia.org).

To support our residents through the evacuation, Well Connected, our phone- and online-based program, is in the process of setting up a daily check-in call for Spring

Lake Village and Friends House residents wherever they may be. As a reminder, Well Connected programs are available for all Covia residents and other seniors, and are an excellent resource for preventing isolation while we are safely distancing. Learn more at <https://covia.org/services/well-connected/>.

This week, our Community Services division has also launched Home Match in Monterey County. Covia's home sharing program helps relieve both some of the financial pressures and social isolation exacerbated by the pandemic. You can learn more about Home Match Monterey on our blog: <https://covia.org/news/>.

If you have not yet done so, please make arrangements to get your flu shot either at your community, from your health care provider, or from a local pharmacy or other location. You can find a location near you at <https://vaccinefinder.org/find-vaccine>.

The news that the President and First Lady have tested positive for COVID-19 is a stark reminder that status and resources are not a defense against this virus. Please be vigilant in maintaining standard precautions: wear a mask that covers your face and nose; maintain at least six feet of distance from others; avoid going out except for essential travel purposes; wash your hands and sanitize surfaces.

As a reminder, if you have questions or concerns, you can contact us at [C19info@covia.org](mailto:C19info@covia.org). Stay safe.