

LEHIGH COUNTY

Public Information Office Government Center | 17 South Seventh Street Allentown, PA 18101-2401 Phone: 610-782-3002 | Fax: 610-871-2755

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 12th, 2020 CONTACT: Laura Grammes 610-782-3002

Cedarbrook Senior Care & Rehabilitation Temporarily Restricts Visitors In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 all nonessential visits are suspended.

Allentown, PA- Effective 1:00 pm, March 12, 2020, Cedarbrook Senior Care & Rehabilitation suspends visitation of all non-medical guests and volunteers to their Allentown and Fountain Hill locations. Visitor restrictions include Brookview apartments tenants visiting the nursing home. Visitor restriction measures are taken as a precaution to protect residents and staff from the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

There are currently no confirmed cases and no suspected cases of COVID-19 within the facilities.

Under guidance from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS), Cedarbrook Allentown previously implemented a limited visitation and screening policy. This included entry through the D-Wing only at the Allentown campus and front entrance only at the Fountain Hill campus to enforce screening for symptoms, sanitation, and flow of guests. Due to the increasing number of cases in surrounding counties, however, further precautions are now being taken to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus to the facilities.

As of last night, on March 11th, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 virus a worldwide pandemic. With accordance to this declaration, President Trump addressed the nation and strongly advised against all nonessential visitation to nursing homes and other facilities. With this update, and further guidance from CMS, County Executive Armstrong and Cedarbrook Administrator Director Cumello decided to suspend all visitors and volunteers until further notice.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid is the governing body for skilled nursing homes in the United States. Lehigh County and Cedarbrook are committed to the safety of its residents and staff and are closely monitoring the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We are working in collaboration and guidance of CMS, the CDC, World Health Organization, and PA Department of Health.

This is an active and evolving situation with more updates to follow.

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