



**ATTENTION: All Residents & Family Members – THE VILLAS, THE HERITAGE AND THE RIDGEWOOD**

**December 18, 2020**

**RE: COVID-19 VACCINE**

Within the past few weeks, news about Covid-19 vaccinations has become more prevalent and they have begun to roll vaccinations out throughout the country including Pennsylvania. We are very excited about this news knowing that the vaccine is a means to the end to this pandemic. The vaccine does not provide us with immediate and complete relief but it does begin the process.

Although there continues to be a lot of unanswered questions about the vaccine for all of us, today we want to share what we do know.

At this time, WE DO KNOW the vaccine will be available first to our team members who work in The Villas as well as the residents of The Villas. Although our hope is to vaccinate all of our team members and residents on campus, the state has established a hierarchy of distribution based on the numbers of vaccinations that are available. As of now, we DO NOT KNOW if our residents and team members at The Heritage and The Ridgewood, or our Without Walls team members will be included in the first round. We will notify those team members and residents as soon as we do know. The number of vaccinations made available to us is beyond our control.

Wednesday, we were informed that our first batch of vaccines will arrive mid-January. The process is federally run and CVS Pharmacy will be administering our vaccines. The vaccine is a two-step process with 21 days between doses. Team members receiving the vaccine must receive both doses. They have told us that these are the tentative dates for them to administer our vaccines; January 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 5pm for the first dose and February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 5pm for the second dose. CVS's vaccination process for St. Paul's is not completely defined at this time.

In the meantime, we want to provide you with materials that will hopefully answer questions you many have about the vaccine. We have posted to our website <https://www.stpauls1867.org/contact/covid-19-updates> a PowerPoint "COVID-19 Vaccine: Answers to Your Questions" and "Questions and Answers about the Covid-19 Vaccine for PA LTC Staff, Patients, Residents and Family Members."

At this point, the vaccine is not mandatory. However, we believe this is our best next step to getting back to life as we know it at St. Paul's. We hope that you take time to read these resources thoroughly to learn about the vaccine before you make your decision about being

vaccinated. We know that there is countless information available and ask that you be cautious and only read from reputable sources. At the end of each of these documents there are websites listed for your reference.

We will keep you updated with any new information about the numbers of vaccines we will receive, who will be on the final list to be vaccinated, and any additional education information we receive that may help address your questions.

We hope you join us in this initiative as an early adopter with one goal in mind – keeping yourself, your family and our team members safe and healthy! Should you have any questions, please reach out to Tammy Lininger, The Villas; Dianna Jones, The Heritage, Mickie Chapman, The Ridgewood and Rita Clemente, The Colony and Without Walls.