

19 August 2020

COVID COMMUNICATION NO. 24

Dear Residents

On Saturday evening, 15th August, President Ramaphosa announced that the country would move to lockdown level 2 as from midnight on Monday 17th August.

This is welcome news to the entire country as it means that the Government believes that we have passed the peak of our Covid infections and that we have achieved a remarkable recovery rate relative to other countries around the world – and that we now need to push to get our economy recovering as well. **However, we are still at number 5 in the world for number of infections.**

We can celebrate our own recovery rate at Randjes as being remarkable – as of today's date we have had 16 Residents recover from a total of 23 confirmed cases in the period from 29 June (1st confirmed case) to 17 August – a 50 day period - which represents a 70% recovery rate!

Whilst this is reason to celebrate, we must not forget that we have lost 7 of our beloved Residents and this needs to remain top of mind as we navigate our way forward in this unpredictable year of 2020.

Whilst we know many of you are delighted about the cigarette and alcohol bans being lifted and inter-provincial travel now being allowed, the most welcome news was the lifting of the ban on family visits, however when we read the "fine print" in the Government Gazette under the heading "**Controlled visits by members of the public point 58. All visits by members of the public to: (f) older persons residential facilities, are prohibited except to the extent and in the manner directed by the relevant Cabinet member.**" You will be pleased to hear that management and the Board of Directors agree that this restriction should continue to be applied to our care facilities only, Fleming House and Resthaven, but **NOT** to the independent part of the Estate.

We all recognize that we have to approach this with extreme caution and care and that the move to level 2 is predominantly because of the economy – and not because it is 100% safe to do so. **The virus is still very much here.**

President Ramaphosa emphasized, a few times, how critical it is to be extra vigilant with how we deal with the elderly under level 2, who remain at the highest level of risk for COVID and we urge you to please keep this in mind as you read further.

Visitors to Estate Residents

Your family members will be able to visit you in your homes and we urge you strongly to follow these rules and safety precautions:

Visiting at Randjes will only be allowed during daylight hours between 9am and 6pm daily and ideally should be held outside.

- ✓ You and your visitors must wear a mask during the entire visit (except when drinking or eating)
- ✓ No hugging or touching
- ✓ Stay 2 meters apart from each other during the entire visit
- ✓ Sanitise hands on arrival
- ✓ If you visit indoors have as many windows and doors open as possible
- ✓ Keep the number of visitors inside your home at any one time to a maximum of 4 (2 if you are in a 1 bedroom unit and 1 if you are in a bedsitter)
- ✓ Keep the visits as short as possible – no more than 1 hour is recommended - to limit possible virus exposure from visitors



Fleming House (Frail and Midcare)

Unfortunately we must remain on the most stringent levels of caution at Fleming House and will therefore still not permit visitors into the facility itself. What we can do is the following:

Frail Care - we will continue to permit family members to visit their loved ones in Frail Care through the glass on the frail care patio or through their room windows. This will continue to be on a pre-arranged basis through Matron Yolanda via email (yolanda@randjesestate.co.za) or on WhatsApp 072 677 2243. Please do not call Matron to arrange or change your visiting times.

Friends from the Estate are welcome to visit in this way on a Tuesday and Thursday only – between 2pm to 4pm. This must be pre-arranged between the Estate Resident and the Frail Care Resident. These visits will be restricted to a maximum of 20 minutes per visit. **No weekend visiting can be allowed as we are unable to monitor these visits.**

Midcare – family members may visit their loved ones on their patios if they have one. The wearing of masks and staying at least 2 meters away from the Midcare Resident is not negotiable.

6 Randjeslaagte Road, Highlands North, 2192. Tel (011) 887 8160/440 4441 Fax (011) 786 4424
E-Mail: info@randjesestate.co.za Website: www.randjesestate.co.za
PO Box 565, Highlands North, 2037

Directors: AW Still, (Chairman), JK Haumann (Vice-Chairman), MTG Coppin, D de W Hayward, DN Edwards, NB Fowler,
K Judin, F Miller, TB Phillips, BE Scott, BR Tobias, Dr. CA Wedgwood and JC Wedgwood

Midcare Residents without their own patio will be able to receive their family members at the dining room extension and will visit through the windows. Windows can be open to allow better communication but we ask that you please do not insert any part of your body through the windows. Again, these visits must be pre-arranged with Matron Yolanda via email or WhatsApp.

Resthaven

Family members may visit with their loved ones on the outside patio at Resthaven. Residents and visitors must wear a mask during the visit. These visits must be pre-arranged with Sister Joy via email on resthaven@randjesestate.co.za or on 011 887 7319 to avoid the issue of there being too many visitors on the patio at one time. The garden area can also be utilized as long as the 2 meter social distancing is adhered to and masks are kept on by all parties at all times.

Friends from the Estate are welcome to visit in this way on a Tuesday and Thursday only – between 2pm to 4pm. This must be pre-arranged between the Estate Resident and the Resthaven Resident. These visits will be restricted to a maximum of 20 minutes per visit. **No weekend visiting can be allowed as we are unable to monitor these visits.**

Private Domestic and Gardeners

Now that visitors are allowed, we believe this is the appropriate time to lift the restriction on private domestics and gardeners as well. However, we cannot emphasize strongly enough that this must be thought through very carefully by any Resident who feels they are ready to allow their domestic and/or gardener back onto the Estate. Should you elect to allow your domestic worker and/or gardener to return to work, then the following rules and precautions apply:

You must advise us of your decision to do this by coming to the Estate Office and completing the register we will make available at Reception. You will be required to supply the name and contact details of your domestic worker and/or gardener as well as where they live and the days they will be working.

- The 2 meter physical distancing is critical at all times
- Wearing of masks is not negotiable for your domestic worker and yes, even your gardener – this includes **YOU** wearing a mask when your domestic worker is inside your home
- Sanitising of hands on arrival and frequent washing of hands is also not negotiable
- Gardeners may work for more than 1 Resident but ideally they should not share tools and equipment between houses – cross contamination should be avoided at all costs
- You must be vigilant about sending your domestic worker or gardener home if they display any of the symptoms related to COVID (familiarize yourself again with the latest list of symptoms so you know what to look out for)
- If you are able to fetch and return your domestic worker or gardener in your vehicle from the gate on the days they work, please do so. They must still go through the pedestrian gate and have their temperature taken. **Security will not be allowed to drop and fetch domestic workers or gardeners on their golf cart.**

It must be noted that we do caution against the sharing of a domestic worker, but if you choose to do this, please do it by being acutely aware of the possibility of cross-contamination.

We will obviously withdraw the Prestige Cleaners and the Servest Gardeners from those units where the domestic worker and/or gardener is returning to work.

Lastly, if you decide to bring your domestic worker or gardener back onto the Estate:

- Please remember that it then becomes your personal responsibility to be extra careful when standing in the queue for takeaways, at the laundry, on the bus, coming to the Estate Office and interacting with your fellow Residents
- Please therefore stay as far away from other Residents as possible and wear your mask over both nose and mouth to avoid exposure of the virus to others
- Please be transparent by letting your fellow Residents know that you have brought your domestic worker and/or gardener back onto the Estate and/or that you are having your family visit you.

Library Hours

The library will re-open on its normal schedule - 7 days a week from 6.30am to 5pm from Thursday 20 August - which means that you will no longer have to stand in a queue to get your books. The same safety precautions will apply in that you must wear a mask in the library, sanitise your hands on arrival and there can only be 2 people in the library at any one time. Rosemary and Mike Crouch will be relieved of their library monitor duties and we thank them profusely for the outstanding job they have done for us up to now.

thank you!

The Chapel

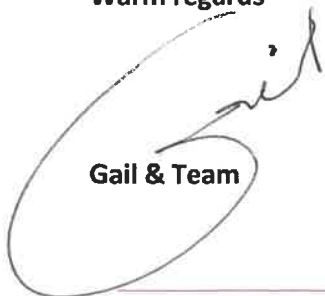
The Chapel will remain closed for now as we are about to start the refurb project of the Chapel.

The opening up of all other activities and services will remain under consideration for now.

It goes without saying that Management reserves the right to reverse any or all of these new measures should we experience an outbreak of any kind on the Estate – or we find that the rules and precautions we have put in place are being abused/ignored.

Let's do whatever it takes to stay safe and to keep each other safe.

Warm regards


Gail & Team

Just because you can, doesn't mean you should.

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