



To: Willow Valley Communities Residents

From: John G. Swanson, CEO, Willow Valley Living

**Date:** July 18, 2020

Subject: Five COVID-19 Attributed Deaths in Our Communities

It is with a heavy heart that I write to advise you that Willow Valley Communities has recently experienced five (5) COVID-19 attributed deaths. The deaths occurred between July 14 and July 18 (this morning). All were Residents of Willow Valley Communities' skilled nursing care communities. Three of the deaths were Residents of The Glen, all of whom passed away at The Glen. Two of the deaths were Residents of Lakeside. Of those, one passed away at Lakeside; the other passed away at LGH.

An LNP news story published today, Saturday, reported two (2) deaths here. LNP obtained its information from the Lancaster County coroner's office. The discrepancy between the number reported by LNP and the number I am sharing with you now can be attributed to delays between a death occurring and the coroner's office publishing updated counts.

All five of the Residents who passed away were experiencing other significant medical conditions. In some of these cases, COVID-19 was the primary cause of their death, as listed on their death certificates. For others, COVID-19 was listed as a secondary cause of death. Nevertheless, the coroner's office classifies the death of anyone who had COVID-19 at the time of his or her passing as a COVID-19 death, whether or not it was the primary cause or a secondary factor. In cases where comorbidities have been present, delays have occurred between the time of death and attributing its official cause.

As we shared on Thursday's COVID-19 Update TV broadcast, Willow Valley Communities has seen an increased number of COVID-19 positive test results in both Residents and Team Members, as a result of universal testing. This was not unexpected. Many have been individuals who are asymptomatic. Universal testing is allowing us to better assess the degree of infection by wing and floor in each of our health centers. This information aids in making data-driven decisions, including isolation of Residents, application of expanded precautions, and division of some supporting living floors into COVID-19 positive and negative sections.

This is an incredibly challenging time for our world and our Community. We will continue to work with diligence and resolve to protect Willow Valley Communities' Residents and Team Members by implementing and adhering to, or exceeding, the most current recommended protocols and guidelines of the expert authorities in the medical and scientific communities.

Our entire Community mourns the passing of these Residents.