



At home in Camden

March 10, 2022

TO: Residents, Family and Care Team Members

FROM: Loriman Looke, Executive Director and Administrator

Sunday will mark two years since Quarry Hill closed its doors in response to the COVID-19 virus. As we've navigated our way through the original strain, the Delta variant, and, beginning last fall, the Omicron variant, regulations and guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Maine Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) have adjusted accordingly.

Recently, with declining case counts and hospitalizations in our area, it's been wonderful to be able to resume some activities within the Anderson Inn—even if our progress toward normalcy isn't nearly as fast as we'd all like. But as we've noted in the past, it's important to remember that CDC guidelines for the general public are not the same as its guidelines for senior-care communities like Quarry Hill (i.e., those where there's a main building that includes long-term nursing care along with other levels of care). So when we hear about restrictions easing around town or around Maine or even at retirement communities elsewhere that appear similar to Quarry Hill on the surface but that don't offer nursing care, we shouldn't rush to compare what's permissible there to what's permissible here.

While encouraged by the recent decline in COVID-19 hospitalizations, and recognizing the loosening of masking requirements in some settings, Quarry Hill continues to follow recommendations from the aforementioned governing bodies. Therefore, for the protection of our residents, patients, visitors and care team members, current masking and distancing requirements at the Anderson Inn will remain in effect.

Additionally, a number of individuals associated with Quarry Hill have tested positive for the virus over the last couple of weeks. We are in communication with the Maine CDC, but, as of this writing, no changes to our testing protocol have been recommended.

You are welcome to reach out to me with specific questions or concerns by calling me on my direct line, 207-301-6275, or via email at [Loriman.Looke@mainehealth.org](mailto:Loriman.Looke@mainehealth.org). Remember, too, that COVID-19 updates may also be found by visiting our website at <https://www.quarryhill.org/covid-19-response> or by calling our COVID-19 phone line, 207-301-6300.