



Ballou Home for the Aged, Inc.

November 19, 2020

Greetings to our BallouLife families:

I hope this finds you well. This is a follow-up letter pursuant to the announcement rendered on November 3rd of this calendar year, indicating that per RI Department of Health, family visitations have temporarily been curtailed, due to the high positivity rate of Covid 19 in the Providence County. We can merely surmise how very difficult this must be on all of our families, how much you have already sacrificed. You are all an integral part of our team, and so precious to the lives of your loved one.

That said, unfortunately, as you may have read or heard through the media, and/or through the weekly briefings by Governor Gina Raimondo, the statistical trend continues to reflect surging numbers at an exponentially high rate, not yet seen heretofore. Therefore, in reassessing our stance vis-a-vis family visitation, we all have to sadly acknowledge that the safety of our residents is front and center, and of supreme importance. Therefore, we have to heed to the directives of the RI Department of Health at this time, by complying with their operational guidelines and standards of governing in regard to nursing homes. The guidelines stipulate that we curtail routine visitation until further notice.

We understand that this is very difficult for you and disappointing but please know that this is for the safety of your loved ones. Naturally you want to see, hug, and touch them.

This has certainly been a very difficult year, with so many facets of our lives being greatly disrupted. Our one glimmer of hope has been the recent news of the potential for efficacious vaccines on the horizon. Again, all that said, we do not want to dismiss what you may be feeling. As a trained social worker, nurse, and psychotherapist, as always I continue to invite you to reach out if you require some emotional support at this time. I am also cognizant of community resources which may also benefit you. I am available 7 days a week should you need to reach me. My contact number is 401-626-1365.

Furthermore, we will continue to provide informational letters to keep you current and updated on the circumstances in regard to the virus as it pertains to nursing homes.

We wish to extend a very Happy Thanksgiving on the part of BallouLife to all of our families. Know that we are doing our utmost to keep your loved ones safe, well cared for, and content. Tina, Tiffany, and Barry along with some of our staff are planning a very special Thanksgiving for the residents. Again, do not hesitate to reach out as needed. We are here for you.

Best regards,
Jocelyn DuBois RN MSW LICSW