

BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES

OF NORTH CAROLINA, INCORPORATED

PROUDLY SERVING OLDER ADULTS SINCE 1951

Reed VanderSlik
President and CEO

June 4, 2021

Residents, Families and Team Members:

We are all very proud of the success we have had in keeping our residents and team members as safe as possible over this last year. The vaccine has worked even better than expected. The only positive Covid tests over the last several months in our communities has been team individuals that were not vaccinated.

Because the Covid vaccine, like any vaccine, is not 100% effective our industry has begun to get some positive Covid tests from residents and employees that received the vaccine. The amount and percent of people testing positive has been very low and much below original projections for the vaccine. We anticipate with the number of vaccinations between residents and team members that it is possible we will see some people test positive that received the vaccine. We wanted to let you know in advance and assure you that we have maintained Covid dedicated spaces in all buildings for any assisted living or skilled nursing resident. We will continue to follow all state and local guidance as well.

We continue to offer monthly vaccine clinics on our campus to ensure we are able to vaccinate new employees, new residents and longer term employees that are interested in the vaccine. I am asking all team members that have not been vaccinated to strongly consider attending one of the next clinics and get vaccinated.

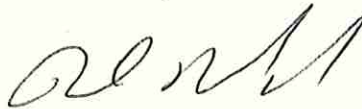
There is still uncertainty around how long the vaccine is effective and we are continuing to follow the latest information. It is possible that this fall or next spring individuals that received the vaccine will need a booster to continue to ensure the effectiveness +/- or to counteract new variants.

I asked one of our medical directors, Dr. Tamara Chittenden, to provide their perspective on the vaccine and its importance as well as any insights they have on the virus and our ability to get back to normal.

“We are not seeing new cases of Covid-19 in vaccinated people. The vaccines are successful in preventing infection. It is rare that a vaccinated person gets infected with the virus; but even in the few documented cases across the country, the infection has been mild in people who have been previously vaccinated. The available Covid-19 vaccinations have shown to be safe and effective. I continue to encourage adults in the community to get vaccinated. My entire family has been vaccinated (some with the Moderna, some with the Pfizer and some with the Johnson and Johnson vaccines). This includes my spouse, my 2 children (ages 18 and 20), my parents and my in-laws. We are back to enjoying time with our friends and extended family without any fear of contracting Covid from others. As more people are reassured by the safety of the vaccines, I look forward to the day when all adults are vaccinated and when there are no more hospitalizations for this deadly virus.” Dr. Tamara Chittenden.

To those of you that have already taken the vaccine I thank you for protecting our residents and team members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Reed VanderSlik', written in a cursive style.

Reed VanderSlik