



A Special Announcement



March 13, 2020

Dear Members of the Hebrew SeniorLife Community:

As the incidences of COVID-19 increase across the country and in Massachusetts, I am reaching out to our community with words of support and an important message for all those who have a friend or family member living with us.

Today, our number one focus is prevention: Our goal is keeping COVID-19 from entering any of our campuses. We cannot be more simple and clear than to ask you to join us in our prevention efforts.

As of today, we are restricting visitors to all of our communities, which includes, but is not limited to, family members and private duty aides. Limited exceptions may be made for end-of-life, immediate risk, and other essential situations as assessed and approved by campus leadership on a case-by-case basis.

Even if a visitor has been pre-approved for one of these limited exceptions, if they meet one of the following criteria, they will not be allowed onto our campus:

1. Show signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat. We are physically screening each visitor for a fever of 100.4° Fahrenheit.
2. Have travelled within the last 14 days to countries with sustained COVID-19 community transmission. Visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>
3. Live with people in their household or any close contacts currently under investigation, surveillance, or self-quarantine for COVID-19.

In addition to these actions, we've bolstered our already strict infection prevention and control protocols with increased cleaning of high-touch areas, cancellation of self-serve and certain communal dining options, and cessation or modification of programming. If you have questions about the actions being taken on a specific HSL campus, please refer to the COVID-19 Response page on our website. <https://www.hebrewseniorlife.org/about-us/covid-19-guidance>

At all times, our actions are focused on the unique needs of the individuals in our care and the amazing people who live in our communities. Many of them, and their families, have been active participants in our efforts and we deeply appreciate the strength and resilience they are showing in the face of this unprecedented situation.

Thank you
Dr. Helen Chen, Chief Medical Officer