



Virtual Roundtable Discussion via Conference Call
Sharing Ideas & Coping Strategies for Residents During COVID-19
April 14, 2020 @ 10 a.m. EDT

The conference call began promptly at 10 a.m. There were 40 providers on the call.

Bob referred the group to yesterday's eBlast to find information from DAIL including the recording of the town hall meeting from last Thursday, the powerpoint used during that meeting, and a 30-minute video from the CDC which addresses COVID-19 in nursing homes and ALCs.

Then Bob informed the group that SB 20, the act related to ALCs sponsored by Sen. Dan Carroll, is up for consideration in a house subcommittee. They started at 10 a.m. today in the annex, so our gov't is open and operating in Frankfort. The Bill only relates to credentialing, it no longer affects Assisted Living.

Bob mentioned the correspondence from Buddy Hoskinson yesterday regarding documentation of a preparedness and response team for our communities. Bob indicated that each community should have one and that it's not mandatory, but if anyone wanted to send their plan to Buddy.Hoskinson@ky.gov it's probably something that we should do.

Then Bob shared that we have two sites that have been offered to the state for COVID-19 "cohort sites." Bob talked w/Keith Knapp about the state approving these sites for any of our residents who test positive for COVID-19 and must go to the hospital. When they come out of the hospital, they'd be released to the cohort site rather than your community. One of the sites is Gaither Suites of Kevil and the other one is Creekside at Whipps Mill in Louisville, which has been renovated as an ALC. Neither site is open yet, but should be open within the next couple of weeks. Keith Knapp is now working in Frankfort with the Inspector General to identify other cohort sites. He is also working on the one at the fairgrounds, as well as the one in Lexington at the UK practice field. Bob speaks with Keith daily and will keep the group updated as to the status of these cohort sites.

Bob opened the conversation up for general discussion.

Susan asked if the cohort sites are quarantine facilities or a place to be released after a COVID-19 hospital stay? Bob responded that it is both. Susan asked if someone who tests positive at the hospital would be sent to a cohort facility during their illness and recovery rather than back to their own home, which in our case is our facility. Bob will get clarification on this question.

Jim Britt asked about the testing sites and any news of those. Bob said that the Kenton County facility opens Wednesday. There will be several sites across the states, focused on the hotspots. Jim asked if anyone had experience with the testing process. Do you have to set an appointment? What is the priority? Bob said that first responders and healthcare workers are the first and second priorities. Third priority are those 65 years old and older who show symptoms of the virus. Bob said that he thinks these are drive-thru testing facilities.

Susan asked about positive tests in our facilities. Bob said the only ones he's heard of were at River's Bend in Kuttawa, KY. Susan said that they've tested 4-5 staff members, and all have come back negative – one is pending results. She wonders how she should handle caring for positive cases among the staff. Should they designate staff members to care for sick staff members only? Bob said the first thing is to send the person to the hospital and then notify the health department and coordinate next steps with them. Susan said that the communities can monitor the positive cases but would rather have them in the hospital. Bob said that because of the HVAC systems in communities, there is no way to completely isolate positive cases in our communities.

Susan asked about fire drills. Are we suspending them because of social distancing? Will the state waive doing those during this period of isolation? Mark Lee said there has been no guidance from the state on that. They have one due this month and will postpone it to another period later in the year and double up at that time. Anita from Hickory Woods contacted Terri Pushal about this issue and was told that, "we are recommending running tests of alarms, document the tests in your log, and make a note that due to COVID-19 they're only doing tests."

Mark Lee asked if there is any way to request the state put that in writing for us? Bob will ask Buddy Hoskinson to do that. Mark said that since Anita got that in writing, maybe she could forward that to Buddy Hoskinson and Victoria Elridge and ask them to confirm that this is the official word from DAIL. Anita sent the email to Bob during this call.

Susan thought it was interesting that on the Town Hall call on Thursday that things like hallway bingo got shut down. Public health said they were hesitant to say that it is ok to do that. But in memory care, they said it would be ok for those people to be in the community spaces at least six feet apart. Commissioner Elridge did not correct that contradiction which gave a mixed message to the meeting participants coming from two state agencies.

Anita from Hickory Woods asked how much longer people were going to have to be quarantined. Her folks are getting irritable and their families want to see them. Bob said that he heard that we're probably looking at the first or second week in May for the curve to be flattened. He doesn't know where that message came from – it was reported on the news. He's not sure how reliable this information is and thinks we could be looking at another couple of months of quarantine. Bob said that Dr. Stack and the governor have done a great job. Mark said one of the key issues is that this is working and that's why we're approaching the flattening of the curve. He believes that the trend has stabilized and will go down. However, with still having cases in the public, we need to recognize the public health issues and continue taking precautions.

Katie Beacham w/Colonial Senior Living said their facility has been locked down and they've done window visits. However, they've also had family members visiting in the evening hours on the back patios with six feet of distance in between. Should they discontinue these visits? Bob said that we don't know where those family members have been so they should be wearing masks at a minimum, and really shouldn't be on the patio with family members at all. Another person said that they have a picture of one family member hanging inside the window of their loved one's apartment and they had to contact him and put a stop to it. She told him he could ruin this for everyone. Bob referred the group to Treyton Oaks, who has 29 cases and 7 deaths so far. Once it gets started in a community it's hard to stop. We'd rather have live residents with unhappy families, than lose residents to the virus.

Another person said that some family members have been taking resident's laundry home to do it there, rather than paying the community to do the laundry. Should they stop allowing them to send laundry out? Bob said he thinks they should do it in-house only and maybe suspend charging for that service until the quarantine is lifted. Maria Lee said that that's what they've done at Paragon.

Bob went over a list of things communities are doing for residents and staff. They include the following:

- Having local restaurants cater meals for staff (which also supports the local economy!)
- Delivering Easter baskets and sweet treats to residents in their apartments, visits from the Easter Bunny
- Having people send in cards and artwork to residents, painted rocks, etc.
- Honoring essential staff with extra praise and hero-status, public recognition of their efforts
- Staff line-dancing in the hallways
- Roving coffee and happy hour stations
- Window visits w/friends and family
- Musicians playing outside where residents can see them from their apartments, as well as other forms of entertainment like remote control airplanes and kite flying, horses and dogs from Horses of Hope
- Residents reading stories and sharing on social media
- Zoom, facebook messenger, facetime visits
- Sidewalk chalk messages
- Volunteers preparing craft kits
- Watching on-line church services, churches donating communion kits and devotional books
- Creative social media posts

Mark said that on any given week, there will be something to take away from these virtual roundtable discussions. There is great value in the sense of community we feel on these calls, knowing that we're not alone.

Bob said that for PPE, there are several places to reach out to which include tattoo parlors, cosmetology businesses, nail salons, and doctors' offices. Argentum also suggests reaching out to Direct Supply (www.directsupply.com) or emailing covidneeds@directsupply.com. Bob shared that he's received two emails recently regarding PPE. One was from someone who has masks available and the other has access to test kits. He forwarded both emails to the Inspector General and the Commissioner so they could vet those people prior to us sending the information out to our people. Buddy Hoskinson said that the people with masks seem to be ok and that he's putting them "into the system." Bob asked if our members are having trouble getting PPE. Susan said that some concerns were raised on Thursday's DAIL town hall call, but no one else spoke up about being in short supply. Maria Lee said that they have orders placed for PPE and that they should be arriving soon. They're also using homemade/donated masks.

Bob referred everyone to the CARES Act and the Paycheck Protection program through the SBA. He's looked at it and thinks that the owners of our communities would have a pretty good case for receiving funds from the Paycheck Protection program. Mark Lee said that they secured \$375,000 last week through the Paycheck Protection program. He's already received \$200,000 to put toward making payroll. They were also able to get six months' worth of their full mortgage payments paid by SBA. These

are all forgivable loans or grants which mean all of the \$375,000 is theirs free and clear and doesn't have to be repaid. Bob is working on this for KSLA too, to help with payroll and rent, as well as any refunds that must be made if we delay the KSLA conference again.

Bob has two conference calls at 3:30 today. One is with DAILL and OIG and the other is with Argentum. If he receives any new news, we'll send it out in an eBlast. Bob asked for feedback from the group on whether these virtual roundtable discussions are helpful.

There being no further business to discuss, the call ended at 10:40 a.m.