

MARY WADE



A five star senior community with a tradition of quality healthcare

Mary Wade Continues a Cautious Approach

The Mary Wade Home Stays Vigilant in its Efforts to Prevent and Contain Cases of COVID-19

Contact: Kara Hunter

khunter@marywade.org, 203-672-7813

August 4, 2020 New Haven, CT – After battling the spread of coronavirus since March, The Mary Wade Home reports no new cases for more than a month.

“We have always kept the health and well-being of our residents our top priority,” said Stan DeCosta, Executive Director. “Battling the spread of COVID-19 has reaffirmed our mission to care for the most vulnerable in our community. Our team here are the real heroes. I’m proud of their professionalism and caring during a period that has tested us all.”

In March, Mary Wade Home closed its doors to visitors and vendors. Since that time, leadership has been in regular communication with local and state public health officials, including as well as with officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, DeCosta said.

“There were multiple meetings with federal, state and local agencies seven days a week,” said DeCosta. “Staying informed and updating policy and procedures based on the guidelines coming out of Washington and Hartford has been critical. There have been seven unannounced visits by the CDC and the DPH which confirmed that we continue to be in compliance with the regulations.”

Sadly, given the aggressive nature of the disease and the heightened vulnerability of our population, we have seen several members of our Mary Wade family succumb to COVID-19. We have expressed our deepest sympathy and sorrow to their families and loved ones, and have continued to keep our residents and their families informed of new information and occurrences on a regular basis.

Fortunately, point prevalence testing has been key to containing the spread of the virus. The Mary Wade Home was the first in the state to conduct testing on both residents and staff. Partnering with Fair Haven Community Health and Quest Diagnostics, Mary

Page 2.

Mary Wade Continues a Cautious Approach

Wade began testing on May 6th and implemented a plan for cohorting as soon as results were received 24 hours later. Prior to this, tests could only be conducted on residents and staff with a doctor's order and only if they exhibited symptoms, and results were received 4-7 days later.

DeCosta added, "The combination of testing with 24-hour turnaround time and cohorting resulted in the effective control of the virus for us. We have had no cases of COVID-19 for more than a month. We will continue to conduct our point prevalent testing."

"What we have learned is that if the virus is in the community, that it will eventually make its way to Mary Wade. That is why we continue to be extremely cautious, adhere strictly to the recommended guidelines and policies and stay vigilant," said David Hunter, President and CEO. "We are committed to protecting and caring for our residents and staff and, based on what we've learned in the last few months, we stand ready to meet the challenges ahead."

About The Mary Wade Home: Mary Wade's mission is to provide high quality medical care, social programs, and supervised residential services to those in need. Our Circle of Care is person-centered and promotes the individual abilities of our residents at home on our modern, comfortable campus; our kind and supportive staff enable residents to make connections and share their talents with our neighbors in the New Haven area. For our kind and knowledgeable staff, compassion, dignity, and trust are of the utmost concern when interacting with residents and visitors. We strive to offer coordinated, innovative, and highest quality care.

#