

October 16, 2020



Hello Reutlinger Community Friends and Family,

Next week, it will be nine months since the CDC announced the **1<sup>st</sup> U.S. case of novel coronavirus** in a traveler who returned from Wuhan, China. Ten days later, the World Health Organization issued a Declaration of Public Emergency. I don't think any of us realized the impact those events would have on our country, our state, and our personal lives. Although we have learned much about this virus and ways to slow its spread, we still have more to learn.

California experienced a surge in COVID-19 cases over the summer but is currently holding steady at a 2.6% positivity rate. Currently, The Reutlinger Community has 1 staff and no residents who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last week. We have not let down on our mitigation strategies to minimize exposure and spread. We continue to follow the guidance from the CDC, California Department of Public Health as well as the Department of Social Services for our residential communities. Additionally, these agencies are stressing the importance of influenza vaccine for our residents and dedicated team members as both COVID-19 and the flu can severely affect the respiratory system.

The Reutlinger Community leadership continues to provide training and education to all employees on safety protocol to minimize the spread both at work and at home. We have adequate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) for our team members and maintain high infection prevention practices at all times.

As we have done since the pandemic began, we are committed to notifying residents, staff, and primary resident representatives if and when a resident or staff member tests positive for COVID-19. We believe that we cannot over communicate during these unprecedented times.

We continue to follow the directives and recommendations from the experts, which include:

- Social distancing and masking
- Diligent infection prevention, hand hygiene, and appropriate use of PPE
- Screening employees for symptoms of COVID-19
- No large congregate gatherings and visitation as allowed by regulatory agencies

We encourage you to access The Reutlinger Community website at [rcjl.org](http://rcjl.org) for the most up-to-date organization information. Also, [CDC.gov](http://CDC.gov) is an excellent website to find the latest expert insights.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we continue to navigate through this ***“Next Normal.”***

Eskaton Management