



SUNNYSIDE VILLAGE

5201 Bahia Vista St. Sarasota, Florida 34232 • 941-371-2750 • SunnysideVillage.org

A Christian Senior Living Community

May 8, 2020

Update to Village Independent Living Residents and Staff

We have to quit meeting like this ... but not quite yet ...

I feel like a father on a long trip across the country with the family asking "are we there yet" an hour away from home! That's **the question I am asking, are we there yet?** But I don't think so—COVID-19 is real, especially for anyone who contracts it. People who catch the virus can get very sick from it, some die from it, but the craziness of COVID-19 is that many people may have it and not know it. So it's something we have to be careful in addressing.

First point ... prioritize healthy and safe best practices ... on and off-campus

The first point that needs to be made at this time in our journey is that every resident is responsible for his or her own behavior in helping to manage their exposure to COVID-19. That includes all of the guidance from the Governor, CDC, CMS, and the Department of Health:

- Wash your hands thoroughly and frequently
- Practice physical distancing 6 feet away from each other
- Wear a face covering or mask in the common areas including the Community Center, when picking up meals in Lakeside Dining
- Wash your clothing after wearing
- Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue and dispose of it properly
- Stay home if you are not feeling well, call a doctor when needed
- All individuals (65+) are encouraged to stay home and only leave their homes when necessary to obtain essential services and avoid groups of more than 10 persons per the Governor's Order.

These are vital points that we need to internalize as we begin to think about increased interactions with each other and going to destinations off-campus. Do what you can to make them natural habits that indicate you are being intentional and providing for your self-care.

Second point ... stay healthy if you leave campus

The 'stay-at-home' directive was part of the Governor's Executive Order, and the language was just adjusted to "encourage" anyone over 65 to stay-at-home and only go out for in the essential purchases. Sunnyside has implemented the temperature call-in feature as a way of trying to help us all maintain an awareness of the need to exercise healthy practices. Sunnyside is following the Governor's Executive Order, but no one is locked on campus in the Village. We are concerned about your health and safety practices to avoid the virus, whether you are in the Village or shopping in your favorite grocery store.

We are in Phase I of the Governor's 3-Phase Plan to re-open our communities. Seniors and senior living communities will be released very slowly - we'll keep you posted. Thank you!

J. David Yoder
Executive Director
Sunnyside Village