



BRICKSTONE | FOUNDATION | HOME | MEADOWS

April 30, 2020

Dear St. John's Residents and Family Members,

This quote below rings true for me this week because despite the challenging days we have experienced since the beginning of this crisis, what has been most motivating is witnessing the daily outpouring of support from our extended St. John's family.

"At times, our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us." – Albert Schweitzer

By way of inspiring words, donations of food and gifts to our staff working on the "front lines," monetary gifts, and volunteer efforts to ensure we have adequate personal protective equipment (PPE), so many of you have recognized our St. John's staff at a time when you and your own families are facing challenges. For this, I thank you. On the days that are most difficult, you provide us with life-giving inspiration when we are most in need.

Among those who have publicly recognized our on-going efforts is a group of appreciative family members who came to St. John's Home parking lot last Friday to visually demonstrate their gratitude. Photographs and media coverage of this heartwarming gesture, can be viewed here: <https://shorturl.at/uwDI9>

I am also humbled to share with you that at our quarterly board meeting on Wednesday there were resounding words of recognition, gratitude, and encouragement expressed by our collective group of volunteer board members towards our team at St. John's--many who have served in this capacity for years, some having expertise to truly recognize the outstanding work being done here, and all who are proud to be a part of our extended team of supporters. You should also know that our board has raised \$50,000 in direct support of St. John's securing additional PPE to protect our residents and staff. This fundraising effort has been opened up to the greater community to further support the expanded services to our senior residents at this time and another \$11,000 has already been raised.

We have also received so many testimonials of support through emails, phone calls, and social media posts from many of you. We have been grateful to share some of these on our web site, along with positive the media coverage, on our blog: <https://www.stjohnsliving.org/blog/2020/04/21/support-network-rallies-around-st-johns/>

Recognizing that the road to full recovery will be long for the entire nation, but most especially at nursing homes where those most vulnerable to COVID-19 reside, I am grateful to have reached a positive milestone this week in terms of flattening our own curve at St. John's. We now have 21 residents who are symptom-free and are at the significant point of being over 14 days since first testing positive. In a continuing difficult environment, this news provides all of us at St. John's with hope.

Thank you again for your recognition of our senior care heroes at St. John's. Please know that you provide an important sense of comfort at this difficult time.

I continue to be grateful and proud of the work of the St. John's staff team on behalf of our residents and their families.

Sincerely,

President and CEO

Embrace Living

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