



December 10, 2020

Dear PACE Family Members,

I am many sure you are seeing the recent news reports that a vaccine may soon be available to nursing home residents and staff, and wanted to give you an update on how Loretto is preparing.

We have registered with both the state and federal government to participate in the vaccination program, which confirms our interest in participation and provides preliminary estimates of how many vaccines we will need for PACE participants across our organization and staff. We expect that we will be receiving the Pfizer vaccine, which is administered in two doses over a 21-day period.

We will be using our pharmacy partners, HealthDirect and PharmScripts, who will manage the vaccination process. And the vaccine will be available to all residents and staff in skilled nursing and assisted living. We are expecting to receive three important forms from PharmScripts within the next several days; which will trigger the next steps in the process, including securing consents.

Once we receive these forms, we will review with staff and residents [or their healthcare agents] to secure consent for those who wish to receive the vaccine. PharmScripts will then confirm availability of the vaccines, and we will be prepared to start administering immediately. We have well established processes in place for annual administration of the flu vaccine that we will follow for the administration of this vaccine.

It is unclear when our community based PACE participants will be included in the vaccination process. Advocacy is taking place at the State and Federal level to include our participants as a high risk population. We will keep you updated as we have additional information, and we are also making educational resources from the CDC and other reputable sources available on the PACE CNY and family visitation page of our web site to provide facts about the vaccine and to answer some of your most common questions.

We are very supportive of being the first to receive this vaccine and believe it is the way that we will stem the spread, especially with our most vulnerable population. If you have questions, please reach out to Stephanie Button, Vice President of PACE CNY at (315) 413-3437.

Thank you,

Dr. Kimberly Townsend, President & CEO