



**RE: COVID-19 & Holiday Visitation in SHRI Residences  
November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Members of the Seven Hills Rhode Island Community:**

We're writing with an important update regarding COVID-19 and recommended precautions in our adult services residences. You have likely seen Governor Raimondo's public request that Rhode Island residents only observe the Thanksgiving holiday with those who live in their household. In addition, the Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities, & Hospitals (BHDDH) has issued specific guidance recommending that we temporarily suspend visitation in congregate residential settings, including the 13 adult group homes operated by Seven Hills Rhode Island. **Effective today, all visitation to and from SHRI residences is temporarily suspended.**

We encourage you to read the guidance memo sent by BHDDH, attached to this memo and available at <https://files.constantcontact.com/e70faf4f501/f64231c3-0c9a-41c8-b4ca-1b1607e014e3.pdf>. BHDDH has informed us that this measure is in direct response to the surge in COVID-19 cases in the state, and intended to help reduce as many exposure risks as possible over the coming days and weeks. The only exceptions indicated now are visits related to compassionate care or visits that are court-ordered. There are technology resources in place in each residence to help support phone and video contacts throughout this period of temporary suspension and beyond.

Please reach out to you or your loved one's program director if you have any questions or concerns. Also please feel welcome to reach out to my office at the contact information below. We know that this can be a disruptive and frustrating measure to see put in place, and it is not one we enter into lightly. We thank you for your patience, understanding, and support as we work to maintain safety in each of our programs and services. While we must move cautiously through the current surge and the winter months, we are hopeful that the spring will see us looking beyond COVID-19.

**Best,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Hayston", is written over a light gray grid background.

**Jay Hayston, LP.D, MBA | Vice President**  
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