

PRESS RELEASE

March 17, 2020

Westminster Canterbury Richmond COVID-19 Response

A resident of Westminster Canterbury Richmond, a continuing care retirement/life plan community, has been diagnosed with COVID-19. The resident is in the hospital after returning from travel to Florida. Westminster Canterbury is working closely with public health officials, who are on campus partnering with Westminster Canterbury healthcare staff. Virginia Department of Health officials are now determining who may have come into contact with the resident and a number of healthcare staff are at home in self-quarantine.

Starting at the beginning of March, a Coronavirus Task Force comprised of staff from various departments, including an RN Infection Preventionist, met to review existing policies and procedures related to infectious diseases and make a plan for other concerns. Our existing infection control policies and procedures guide us as we work to prevent the spread of infection and control it as necessary.

- On March 4, staff began tracking the travel plans of residents, staff and their families in order to monitor those travelling to affected areas.
- On March 11, as soon as a case was confirmed in greater Richmond, Westminster Canterbury took strides to lock down the campus, closing the campus to visitors and screening everyone who entered campus, including all staff members, with questions and temperature screenings.

As soon as COVID-19 was diagnosed for the hospitalized resident, Westminster Canterbury took additional steps, including requiring all residents to remain in their apartments. All needs of residents will be attended to by staff.

“We initiated aggressive and proactive efforts in tracking the travel of our residents and employees as well as implemented proactive screening procedures which we believe helped us manage this case as effectively as possible,” said John Burns, President and CEO.

Virginia Department of Health will be involved throughout the process.

About Westminster Canterbury Richmond:

Westminster Canterbury Richmond was founded in 1971 by the Episcopal and Presbyterian churches and opened in 1975. An award-winning, fully-accredited, not-for-profit continuing care retirement/life plan community, Westminster Canterbury is home to nearly 900 residents in independent, assisted, memory support and healthcare living. The organization is listed in the top-10 largest single-site non-profit life plan communities in the United States by LeadingAge Ziegler. Westminster Canterbury Foundation is an affiliated not-for-profit that raises funds for the charitable purposes of the organization. Additional information about Westminster Canterbury Richmond is available at www.wcrichmond.org.