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Geneva Lake Manor a leader in early COVID-19 precautions, testing
Nursing home offers response to build stronger partnership with county

LAKE GENEVA, WI—April 19, 2020—Administrators of Geneva Lake Manor today shared information about its COVID-19 practices with county officials, media outlets, and staff members in an act of transparency.

The nursing home and rehab center, part of Wisconsin Illinois Senior Housing Inc. (WISH), released information that shows it had practiced the most stringent safety and prevention procedures starting in early March.

Walworth County Health Department officials issued an Order April 17 that requires Geneva Lake Manor to add procedures and practices.

“We were surprised by the Order,” said Bob Siebel, president/CEO of Carriage Healthcare Companies, the management company for WISH. “Geneva Lake Manor had previously begun practicing all the actions in the Order beginning in the first weeks of March, well ahead of the Order.”

For example, the Walworth County Order requires Geneva Lake Manor to stop permitting visitors. Administrators at the nursing home restricted visitors March 13, more than a month before the Order.

Siebel said the county didn’t speak with nursing home representatives before issuing the Order. Geneva Lake Manor will work with county officials to establish a shared set of facts, he added.

Lucinda and Mark Rapata of Walworth praised the caregivers at Geneva Lake Manor, where Lucinda Rapata’s mother lives.

“Every precaution was in place,” Lucinda Rapata said. “Please give your understanding, support and prayers to these brave people (who work at Geneva Lake Manor). They are our superheroes.”

“The lengthy response emailed today to county officials provides a first step toward a stronger partnership with the health department for the benefit of vulnerable residents during the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Andy Kerwin, an area resident and chair of the Board of Directors that oversees Geneva Lake Manor.

“The Board of Directors is proud of the proactive work at Geneva Lake Manor and of the heroic and diligent efforts by the staff since the very beginning of the pandemic,” Kerwin said.

Geneva Lake Manor is part of Wisconsin Illinois Senior Housing Inc. (WISH), a nonprofit 501 (c) 3 organization. Geneva Lake Manor and its sister facilities provide the finest long term care facilities in the

upper Midwest and their staffs prides themselves on compassionate care to seniors every day in several post-acute and senior home environments. Visit the website at <https://www.wisconsinillinoiseniorhousing.org/>.