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COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) update

Further to my letter dated 3 August 2020 as a valued member of the Sundale community, I wanted to provide you with an update and outline Sundale's current approach to managing the COVID-19 situation (formally known as novel coronavirus).

The evolving COVID-19 aged care crisis in Victoria has again highlighted the need for providers, including Sundale, to take measured, proactive steps to prepare for the unimaginable.

Over the past few months, Sundale has made a number of considered decisions, so it is prepared if there is a community outbreak of the virus on the Sunshine Coast, Kilcoy or Gladstone/Boyne Island or if COVID-19 enters a Sundale site.

Some of the implemented measures include:

A mock COVID-19 outbreak at each of Sundale's Care Centres

The simulation allowed Site Managers to implement their COVID-19 Outbreak Response Plans. Industry peak body, Leading Age Services Australia (LASA) was so impressed with Sundale's approach and comprehensive evaluation, they requested access to our Outbreak Checklist to share with other aged care providers.

Expert management of Sundale's PPE stockpile

In the event of a positive COVID-19 test, sites will be able to access a 48-hour COVID-19 specific PPE kit within one hour of notification (90 minutes for Aloaka). Binadree has previously been provided with their additional stocks.

Response Plan

A creation of a COVID-19 specific Response Plan which includes a step-by-step guide of what to do following the identification of a COVID-19 positive case. The COVID-19 Response Plan also has a comprehensive checklist, Which Sundale will follow in the event of a positive COVID-19 case.

Infection Control

Sundale has established, stand-alone Infection Control locations in the event care recipients require complete isolation.

These locations are stocked with all the necessary equipment to appropriately manage an outbreak.

Skill-set identification

Sundale has engaged with its workforce and identified team members with relevant skill sets who are willing to assist on the front line in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak.

I appreciate the prospect of COVID-19 entering a Sundale Care Centre or Retirement Community is a confronting thought, however, it is essential Sundale is prepared.

Sundale will continue to make responsible and considered decisions to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of its care recipients, residents, and dedicated team members to help minimise the threat of COVID-19 entering a Sundale Care Centre or Retirement Community.

Yours sincerely,

Danielle Mackenzie Sundale CEO