

A MESSAGE ABOUT COVID-19 FROM OUR CEO

At VNA of Southeast Missouri, Inc. we are concerned about COVID-19 and the impact it is having on our community.

Our internal Emergency Preparedness Plan has been activated and our highest priority is our patients and our employees. We have a dedicated team that is working diligently to make sure we remain updated on guidelines issued by the CDC, Missouri Department of Health and Human Services and the Health care coalition. We are closely monitoring suspected cases and confirmed cases that could potentially affect us.

The CDC strongly encourages us all to take preventive actions to help avoid the spread:

- o Social distancing – If it is not necessary to leave your home, stay in. If you must leave your home, keep a safe distance from others (6 ft is the recommendation).
- o Proper hand washing – Wash your hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds. Wash your hands often and be conscientious of areas you touch. Wash your hands after using the bathroom, before eating and preparing foods, after visiting public places and after coughing or sneezing.
- o Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- o If you feel sick, stay home and limit visitors.

The symptoms to be aware of are the following:

- o Fever
- o Cough
- o Shortness of Breath
- o Sore Throat

Risk factors:

- o International travel or to one of the areas in the United States that has been heavily affected.
- o Exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 or pneumonia or a virus of an unknown origin

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has activated a statewide public hotline for citizens needing guidance regarding COVID-19. The hotline is being operated by medical professionals and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and can be accessed by calling 877-435-8411.

While we currently have not provided care for a COVID-19 positive test, we are prepared if and when the situation arises. It is important to remember that the majority of patients that contract COVID-19 have a mild case and recover quickly. We encourage you not to overreact but to stay informed.

Shonda Young
CEO