

New Perspective.

April 21, 2020

Dear Residents, Tenants, and Family Members:

A quote we routinely reference with our team members is one from Maya Angelou. Ms. Angelou wisely guides individuals to: “Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.”

It has been 3 months (93 days, to be exact) since the first reported case of *COVID-19* in the United States. Our healthcare providers joined those around the world in learning that our healthcare systems heavily relied on what is the epicenter of the *COVID-19* pandemic for production of most of the world’s supply of personal protective equipment (PPE). It has been heart-wrenching to bear witness to healthcare workers on the frontlines of this fight manage through the unknowns of this virus while learning that the supply of PPE needed to protect them against contracting the virus would not be readily available or forthcoming.

Upon learning of the constraints on the supply of PPE, our New Perspective team went to work by sourcing alternative supply chains located around the globe. Acknowledging the need to conserve PPE pending the availability of new PPE supply chains, we issued PPE conservation and reuse protocols in line with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Further, in advance of the CDC guidance recommending individuals wear a face cover when unable to practice social distancing, we launched our Cloth Face Mask Donations campaign. In response, a battalion of seamstresses—with their angel wings vigorously flapping—began, and continue today, to provide homemade masks. In line with positioning ourselves to do better, I am beyond pleased to inform you that our efforts to secure PPE supplies allow us to have all our team members wear a procedure mask and protective eyewear while working has been realized. We must still conserve and reuse our PPE until stores of supply return to allowing for single use; but we are nonetheless grateful to be in this position given the added protection it affords.

So, what is New Perspective going to do with the present and incoming supply of cloth face masks, you may ask? Recall the CDC guidance that I spoke to above in which the CDC recommended individuals wear a face cover when unable to practice social distancing? That guidance was not just directed at healthcare workers; it applies to everyone. Therefore, we will begin this week to quantify the number of masks each community has and once calculated, we will begin to offer the masks to our residents and tenants. We will be encouraging them to wear the masks, or a face cover of their choosing, when outside their apartments, and especially if they must leave the community. We cannot require our residents and tenants to wear the masks, just as we cannot prevent residents and tenants from leaving the community for non-essential reasons. What we can do is gently remind them that when we know better, we should then do better.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact your community’s Executive Director with any questions or needed assistance.

Sincerely,



Chris Hyatt
President