To Our Residents and Family Members:

We know many of you are still concerned about the spread of COVID-19 (the new Corona Virus) and how it may impact us here at Groton Community Health Care Center. Ensuring residents are cared for in a safe and healthy environment is our first priority. We have implemented various steps to help reduce the potential for the virus to enter our facility. However, we need your help in battling COVID-19.

Let me share with you the importance of Resident Screening and Testing:

Early identification and isolation of individuals affected with COVID-19 in high-risk settings is the best means of preventing significant morbidity and mortality of vulnerable populations. We therefore are beginning a testing program of residents and employees utilizing PCR and antibody testing.

PCR testing involves nasopharyngeal swabbing and determines whether someone has an active infection and is shedding viral particles. Persons with a positive or indeterminate PCR test are at risk of transmitting the disease. We plan to perform PCR testing while the risk of disease transmission remains high in order to identify and isolate employees and residents at risk of transmitting COVID-19. Antibody testing (IgG) involves a blood draw and identifies those with previous exposure/infection with COVID-19 but does not give information as to whether there is risk of transmission.

We will have Cayuga Health System onsite Thursday, May 14th from 9 AM to 4 PM to provide you with testing. You will **not** need to follow isolation protocols after testing while waiting for your result if you are asymptomatic.

I will end by saying how much we appreciate your efforts during these very trying times as well as how much we will appreciate your willingness to keep everyone safe and participate in this testing process.

We will notify you if any residents or staff are diagnosed with COVID-19. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 607-898-5876.

We are all in this together!

Sincerely,

Nasar Khan
President & CEO
To Our all Staff Members:

We know many of you are concerned about the spread of COVID-19 (the new coronavirus) and how it may impact us here at Groton Community Health Care Center. Ensuring residents are cared for in a safe and healthy environment is our first priority. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), New York State Department of Health (NYDOH) have recommended a variety of steps that we are implementing to help reduce the potential for the virus to enter our building. However, we need your help in battling COVID-19.

At this time, we are implementing the following as per NYSDOH:

**Suspend all visitation** except medically necessary.

**Health Checks** for all facility staff at the beginning of each shift. This includes all personnel entering the facility regardless of whether they are providing direct patient care. Facility staff performing health checks must wear facemasks. Facility staff with symptoms or with T ≥ 100.0°F should be sent home, and facility staff who develop symptoms or fever while in the facility should immediately go home.

All facility staff shall wear a **Facemask** while within 6 feet of residents. Extended wear of facemasks is allowed; facemasks should be changed when soiled or wet and when staff go on breaks. We should bundle care and minimize the number of staff who enter rooms to reduce the number of personnel requiring facemasks.

**Cancel communal dining and all group programs/activities.**

Our facility is following the recommendations of the CDC and NYDOH on prevention steps, including following strict handwashing procedures, and in many circumstances, wearing gowns and gloves when interacting with residents who present symptoms. We also are staying up to date with the CDC and NYDOH recommendations as they may continue to change. In addition, our nursing facility is in close contact with the local and state health department, and we are following their guidance.

Sincerely,

Nasar Khan  
President & CEO
To Our Residents and Family Members:

We know many of you are concerned about the spread of COVID-19 (the new coronavirus) and how it may impact us here at Groton Community Health Care Center. Ensuring residents are cared for in a safe and healthy environment is our first priority. At this time, we don’t have any cases in our county. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have recommended a variety of steps that we are implementing to help reduce the potential for the virus to enter our building. However, we need your help in battling COVID-19. Below are some examples of how you can help protect the residents, as well as prevent the spread throughout the community.

At this time, we request that family and friends do not visit the center. Out of an abundance of caution, we are limiting all visitors to our facility unless absolutely necessary. Special circumstances may be considered in rare instances and will be reviewed on a case by case basis. We are posting signs on our entryway doors to notify visitors of this policy.

We understand that connecting with your loved ones is incredibly important, and there are a variety of other ways you might consider communicating with them. These may include telephone, email, text, video chat or social media. If you believe a visit to the center is necessary, we request that you contact the nursing unit prior to your arrival.

Please make sure we have your most current, emergency contact information. We want to make sure we efficiently communicate with you should there be any new developments. Please reach out to the nursing units with your updated contact information.

Residents, please help prevent the spread of infection by exercising proper hand washing hygiene as well as coughing and sneezing etiquette. We offer hand washing and alcohol-based hand sanitizer stations throughout the building, which you are welcome to use. Please also avoid shaking hands and hugs with any individual. If you are experiencing a cough, fever, sore throat, runny nose, and/or shortness of breath, please let a staff member know immediately.

Our facility is following the recommendations of the CDC on prevention steps, including following strict handwashing procedures, and in many circumstances, wearing gowns and gloves when interacting with residents who present symptoms. We also are staying up to date with the CDC recommendations as they may continue to change. In addition, our nursing facility is in close contact with the local and state health department, and we are following their guidance.

We will notify you if any residents or staff are diagnosed with COVID-19. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at: 607-898-5876.

Sincerely,

Nasar Khan
President & CEO

We are committed to keeping you strong.