



## COVID-19 Statement from Louisiana Nursing Home Association

From Louisiana Nursing Home Association Executive Director Mark Berger  
March 17, 2020

LNHA is continuously monitoring and responding to the ongoing developments of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in our state.

Federal and state health officials have issued new protocols which require nursing facilities to “restrict visitation of all visitors and non-essential health care personnel, except for certain compassionate care situations, such as an end-of-life situation.”<sup>1</sup> We understand that the implementation of this protocol not only places a strain on our residents but also on their loved ones. While our residents cherish visits from their family and friends, the decision to restrict visitation was made with their health and safety in mind. Preventing the introduction of the virus into the nursing facilities remains our members’ top priority. In keeping with that priority, our members have also severely restricted vendor access and have instituted rigorous daily screening of all personnel entering the facilities.

During this difficult time, we ask for your patience, support and prayers for our beloved residents and staff. All of our personnel have received extensive education and training regarding COVID-19 and your loved one will continue to receive high-quality care and service in a loving, safe environment.

We are thankful for the support of Gov. John Bel Edwards, state legislators and the Louisiana Department of Health as we work through this situation. We will remain in constant contact with federal and state officials and we firmly believe this coordinated effort will result in the best possible outcome for our residents, staff and the community.

<sup>1</sup>CMS Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Nursing Homes (Ref: QSO-20-14-NH, 3/13/20)

### About Louisiana Nursing Home Association

Louisiana Nursing Home Association (LNHA) is a nonprofit organization representing more than 250 nursing facilities and assisted living communities that care for approximately 25,000 elderly and disabled individuals each day. On behalf of its members, LNHA advocates for providing quality care and nurturing environments to Louisiana’s frail and elderly. To learn more about LNHA, visit [www.lnha.org](http://www.lnha.org).