



The Sisters of Divine Providence continue to monitor the progress of the COVID-19 global situation. Because our Sisters are missioned throughout the United States and the Caribbean, there are naturally different precautions and actions in place specific to each geographic area. This communication specifically relates to Providence Heights in Allison Park, PA. While there are no confirmed cases in Allegheny County at this time, the number of confirmed infections is growing in multiple states across the country. To ensure the health and safety of our sisters, employees, and visitors we will begin to practice social distancing measures to mitigate the risk to our community. Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Social distancing measures can reduce virus transmission by decreasing the frequency and duration of social contact among persons of all ages. These measures are common-sense approaches to limiting face-to-face contact, which reduces person-to-person transmission.”

We are taking the following actions now:

Providence Heights Alpha School shares the campus and building with the Sister residents. Beginning on Monday, March 16, 2020, the Alpha Community will not have access to the Chapel or to the Swimming Pool. Students will vacate the Alpha Dining Room by noon each day. Service in the Sisters dining room will commence at 12:15. Other specifics regarding the cancelling of activities for the Alpha will be posted on their website. <https://www.alphaschool.org/>

La Roche University shares the campus with Providence Heights. Specifics regarding their response to the situation are continuously updated on their website. <https://www.laroche.edu/coronavirus/>

Kearns Spirituality Center shares the campus with Providence Heights. All activity at Kearns will be cancelled from March 16, 2020 until April 16, 2020. During that time the entire facility will be sanitized. Updates to the situation at Kearns will be posted on their Facebook page.

Beginning Monday, March 16, 2020 until April 16, 2020, access to Providence Heights (including the chapel, dining room and swimming pool) will be restricted to residents of Providence Heights and those who live on the property. Previously scheduled meetings (including community meetings) should be conducted through technology, rather than face to face.

Employees who are able to work remotely will be encouraged to do so. Arrangements will be coordinated through each department with the Human Resource department. A notice of availability will be posted to email and voice mail.

Specifics regarding the health precautions and plans for care for the Sisters are posted on the website under “Policies”. Specifics regarding food service have also been put into place by SAGE dining service.

As we face the many unknowns, may our sure confidence in our Provident God sustain us and may it be a sign of strength and hope for all with whom we live and minister.

*Sister Michele Bishey*

Provincial Director