



## **Isolation Reduction Initiative in ALFs/AFCHs**

The Florida Assisted Living Education and Research Foundation is announcing an exciting opportunity to Licensed assisted living facilities and adult family care homes across the state to participate in an Isolation Reduction Project with a grant received from Sunshine Health/Centene.

The initiative is based on the need to decrease social isolation of seniors in Assisted Living Communities and Adult Family Care Homes in Florida. The isolation created with COVID-19 has made it difficult for families to connect, resulting in many seniors and their families adjusting in how to stay connected while being physically apart. This isolation is stressful and may cause feelings of depression and sadness.

The program will consist of a distribution of a minimum of 100, 10" tablets to selected communities and homes throughout the 11 regional areas to allow for residents to communicate with family via online platforms such as IMO, What's App, and Zoom, as well as access to email, and online games.

Selected communities will be asked to provide a short report regarding resident usage, engagement and impact from the resident and staff perspective for signs of decreased side effects from isolation such as:

- Decreased anxiety and/or depression evidenced by verbal or visual expression of emotions
- Decreased use of anxiety medication
- Increased participation in facility events

### **Cost:**

There is no cost for participating facilities to be part of the program. Each community will be asked to complete a short monthly evaluation and one at the end of the year.

Participating members will be required to have minimum usage of 50 hours per month amongst use of programs listed above.

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

Communities eligible to apply must:



- Be a current licensed facility in Florida Be in good standing with AHCA (no suspensions or open citations and complaints)
- Be committed to resident engagement and mental health wellness.
- Agree to submit monthly and annual evaluations.
  - Months 1-12 if evaluations missed tablets will be returned or billed to the community at cost of \$150 to procure additional tablets and share the opportunity with others.
  - After first 12 months with active submission of evaluations tablets are communities to keep.
  - Months 13-24 Quarterly evaluations requested.
- Have access to Wi-Fi in your community/home.
- Sign and return agreement prior to distribution.

**Selection Criteria:**

The number of participants is limited to 100 communities per phase, and we anticipate high interest among members, therefore an application will be used to select those invited to participate. Selection of communities will be based on the responses in their submitted application (link below).

**Selection Process & Timeline for January kick off.**

December 21 <sup>st</sup> ,2020	Application Released
December 29 <sup>th</sup> ,2020	Applications Due
December 30 <sup>th</sup> – January 4 <sup>th</sup> ,2021	Project Participants Selected
January 5-8 <sup>th</sup> ,2021	Selected Participants Notified
January 11 <sup>th</sup> -March 15 <sup>th</sup> ,2021	Tablets Distribution based on incoming inventory

**Application Submission**

**Applications are due on Tuesday, December 29, 2020 at 5pm ET.** Complete proposals by filling out the application available [here](#).

For questions, please email:

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