

From: Brian E. Keeley
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:21 PM
Subject: A Message About Recovery

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Within the past few days, Gov. Ron DeSantis announced his intent to begin gradually reopening businesses in Florida in a methodical and safe way. As the state moves in the direction of ending the current ban on elective procedures, which is set to expire on May 8th, Baptist Health has its wheels in motion and is planning for its phased reopening as soon as it is possible and safe to do so. Our Recovery Task Force is leading the charge for the reopening of our services and is working diligently to ensure we have the processes in place to care for patients under continued social distancing guidelines and other ongoing challenges. Our goal is to be prepared to help the many people who have delayed seeking treatment during this difficult time, and ensure that those who need care moving forward are able to receive it.

While COVID-19 will remain a part of our foreseeable future, we are encouraged to see a decline in the number of positive patients hospitalized throughout our system. State-wide, there has been a reduction in new cases admitted to hospitals as well as in the rate of patients diagnosed as COVID-19 positive. We are also seeing these positive trends at Baptist Health.

Just as we have been executing a plan of action during this COVID-19 pandemic to ensure we had bed capacity for patients, equipment and supplies, and support for employees, we will have detailed plans for the recovery phase. In this unprecedented time, opening up parts of our business to a “new normal” will be based on data and will be continuously monitored. We will make changes to our physical spaces, like ensuring the proper distancing in our waiting rooms; as well as to our processes, like working to reduce the amount of people waiting at one time, in order to protect our employees and our patients. Our recovery plans are conditioned around being in full compliance with all laws, regulations and executive orders and having our staff and facilities fully prepared from a safety standpoint.

I am confident under the leadership of our Recovery Task Force, and the work of every Baptist Health family member, we will reopen under the right conditions in a state of ongoing readiness and continue to take excellent care of each other, our patients and our community.

Thank you for everything you do for Baptist Health.

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