

Greetings,



Another week has passed which means we are one week closer to the end, although I wish we had a crystal ball to know when we may open our doors to you. Our senior management at Catholic Charities New Hampshire have been phenomenal in providing necessary PPE and the state has provided us with available resources upon request; this week we brought in an additional 200 gowns and 2,000 surgical masks! Our isolation unit is nearly complete, this unit is on the South Wing located on second floor and has been completely separated from the rest of second floor by use of a plastic wall accessible via a zipper door. Another zipper door was constructed to create a safe zone for staff to don/doff PPE (put on take-off) and access to a restroom and office. A third zipper door was erected to isolate the solarium from the hallway, all three doors create an environment of minimal air flow to reduce the risk of transmission. Staff will enter the unit through a rear stairwell and use the South Solarium as their resting area/supply storage. This stairwell will be used as the entry point for food/laundry/supplies and any item required for the unit; the intention is to minimize movement in and out of the isolation unit from the second floor entry point to reduce the risk of exposure to others in the building. We will launder the scrubs of staff working on the unit to reduce the risk of transmission into the community. Donna Wolin, RN/DNS, and her nursing team have been marvelous in planning for the anticipated nursing care that will be required if we activate the isolation unit.

We are working to create the opportunity for visitations while also keeping our residents and employees safe. Plans are being coordinated to safely transfer one resident at a time to the dining room where a maximum of two residents at a time may have a visit. Family members will be asked to stay outdoors to maintain the mandated visitation restrictions. We will provide a cordless phone for the resident to use if they have a difficult time hearing or if the weather is too cold for the resident to sit in front of an open window. When the window is open we will utilize a screen system with a HEPA filter to provide a safe barrier. The virus that causes COVID-19 is approximately 0.125 micron in diameter which falls within the particle-size range that HEPA filters efficiently capture: 0.01 micron above. Starting on Monday please feel free to call Jill and schedule a visit. The resident and visitor stations will be sanitized after each visit.

A few highlights from this week:

- Hallway Bingo- we moved away from Bingo for a week and residents were requesting for it to return. Residents sit in the doorway outside their rooms, staff sit with residents who prefer assistance and the Bingo caller announces from the center of the hallway.
- Weekly happy hour- rounding with a beer/wine cart loaded with snacks each Friday.
- Snack/Drink carts- Activities was asked to sit with each resident for a 1:1 visit on the days they deliver afternoon treats.
- May basket craft for interested residents

Please remember that we can schedule Google Duo video calls, please call Jill Gilbert in the business office to schedule a time or coordinate with the nurse if Jill is not available. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, concerns, comments or suggestions.

Stay strong and healthy,

Jeffrey Lacroix

Administrator

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