## **St. Vincent de Paul Rehabilitation and Nursing Center** 29 Providence Avenue Berlin, NH 03570 T: 603-752-1820 F: 603-752-7149 stvincentrehabcenter.org



August 13, 2021

Families, friends, residents and staff;

Throughout the last few weeks there has been an ebb and flow of positive COVID-19 cases in Coos County and unfortunately the trend has continued upwards. The increase in cases spiked to a degree resulting in twice a week testing. We are testing unvaccinated staff on Friday afternoon and again on Tuesday. This trend will continue until the county's rates decrease below 10% with once a week testing until we drop below 5% for testing positivity. The Delta variant may look and act very similar to the original strain of COVID-19, but doctors have noticed some differences. Fever and cough are present in both types, but headaches, sinus congestion, sore throats and runny noses all appear to be more common with the Delta strain. We are strongly urging individuals experiencing any symptoms to postpone their visit, we will ensure to reschedule you at your convenience.

We have been working on a project to enhance resident rooms, resident bathrooms and begin a phased renovation of the shower rooms. As a way to move forward with the projects, while controlling costs, we have been conducting the work internally. In an effort to expedient this massive project we created a temporary position of Project Coordinator to complete this work. We are in search of an individual who has experience in laying down flooring, strip/waxing flooring and painting. This position will be a 40 hour per week and will continue until the established projects are complete. The purpose of this position is to have one individual focus on enhancing the living space for our residents in an expedient manner while also allowing the current staff to maintain their day-to-day needs. We kindly request that you reach out if you are interested or know a qualified individual with interest.

Visitations continue to be a success with individuals honoring the federal mandates and additional precautions we have instituted. We continuously have a new stream of individuals visiting and receiving the weekly updates which is the reason we maintain the final section of the weekly letter. During your visit, if care personal care is required we request that you stand outside the resident's room while wearing your mask so it covers your nose and mouth. Due to resident use and disinfection we kindly request solariums at the end of the hall not be used as a gathering area.

Please remember, we are obligated to obey the following CDC/CMS requirements:

- Scheduling visits with COVID screening
- Screening prior to entry is mandatory
- Masks worn properly at all times
  - Masks may be removed when all individuals are fully vaccinated and while around people not in your party
- Visitors must socially distance from staff and residents who they have not scheduled a visit with

After monitoring the volume of phone calls and difficulty in managing the schedule we request the following:

- Please avoid changing visit time unless it is necessary
- You do not have to call if you would like to change the visit location (outdoors to indoors)

Please do not hesitate to call or email with questions, concerns or comments.

Thank you,

Jeffrey Lacroix Administrator St Vincent de Paul Rehab and Nursing 29 Providence Ave Berlin, NH 03570 (P) 603-752-1820 (F) 603-752-5766