

September 3, 2021

Families, friends, residents and staff;

This week we saw a decrease in county positivity rate which lowers the frequency for testing to once a week. Testing was conducted on Tuesday with all results returning as negative. We will continue testing once a week until the county positivity rate decreases below 5%. Unvaccinated employees have been making appointments to receive the vaccine with a few discussing the options with their physicians. We are grateful to have a group of staff who may not appreciate the federal mandate but respect the significance and obligation to protect our residents and peers.

We are often content with the people we know or within places we have experienced because previous association and predictability provides comfort and reassurance; while the unknown is associated with curiosities and unpredictability. Change is often approached with hesitancy due to the unknown but it is also a fantastic opportunity to rebrand and realign core values to our mission of ensuring we help heal, comfort and empower each resident. This week, Ariel Cusson, RN/ADNS, and LaCrecia Muncrief, LPN/Unit Manager, both began a new chapter in their lives; Ariel is transitioning to acute care within the hospital setting and LaCrecia is returning to Texas while anticipating the birth of her newest grandchild. We wish the best for Ariel and LaCrecia and will see Ariel in the future as a per diem floor nurse.

We are excited to announce Missy Couture, RN as unit manager and Sandra Knowlton, RN, as the Assistant Director of Nursing; we cannot be anymore excited. Many of you already know Sandra and have expressed generous praise and admiration for her warm approachability and focus on person-centered care. Both individuals have a vast knowledge base they will share with staff while ensuring each resident is receiving individualized care. Collaboration, integrity, excellence and optimism are traits Missy and Sandra hold firmly as they lead staff to follow the same. As a team, we are comfortable and eager to cross this line of change and embrace the next chapter.

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
- 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

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