

St. Vincent de Paul Rehabilitation and Nursing Center

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Families, friends, residents and staff;

“We were enjoying the Priests, music and fun” said our Life Enrichment Director, Candy O’Neil, as we began organizing a monthly update before we announced positive cases of COVID-19 this week. Testing of all residents and staff was conducted and we continue to test as individuals develop symptoms. As of Friday morning, we have confirmation of 4 residents and 4 staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 and we have been communicating with DHHS to ensure we are following the most recent protocols. All COVID-19 positive residents are on third floor where we have isolated each positive individual in hopes of stopping the spread. Our designated COVID-19 unit is prepared and remains vacant since cases are currently isolated to one unit. We will activate the unit if spread continues but this involves relocating residents which is always the last option.

In late December the CDC released its most recent COVID-19 updates, one for the general public and another for individuals residing or working in more vulnerable settings such as residents and staff of long-term care entities. The case manager assigned to our outbreak stated we must keep positive residents in isolation for 10 days. With psychosocial well-being in mind we requested the opportunity for asymptomatic residents to “test out” of isolation after 7 days, similar to staff, but DHHS declined this request. Large group activities and communal dining will not resume until further notice, small group activities with masks and social distancing continue to be organized on 1st and 2nd floor.

As always, visitations are allowed but each individual must be aware we have positive cases of COVID-19 and entering the building comes at a calculated risk to each visitor’s health. We strongly discourage visitation at this immediate time, if an individual prefers to continue with a visit we strongly ask visitors to **not** remove their mask or face shield during the visit. We request visitors go directly to the room in which they are visiting and do not freely walk the halls or visit with other residents.

Please do not visit if you have ANY cold or flu symptoms or experiencing any other illness.

- A mask must be worn that covers the nose and mouth while walking throughout the building
- A face shield must also be worn by visitors while walking to a resident’s room
- Visitors may not associate with other residents during the visit
- Maintain social distancing from other individuals
- Do not visit if you had an encounter with a potentially positive or COVID positive individual within the last 14 days or if any new onset of illness exists.

We will send the next update if we receive confirmation of another resident or staff testing positive for COVID-19. If we are fortunate and stopped the spread and due to scheduled time away the next update will be on Friday, February 18.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns.

Kindly,

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