

February 11, 2022

Families, friends, residents and staff;

The Nursing team continues weekly PCR testing with rapid antigen tests as needed for residents and staff. This week's testing identified an additional 5 cases among residents and 1 direct care staff member. In addition to ordering PPE and Catholic Charities New Hampshire providing necessary protective equipment, we have been actively networking with DHHS to maintain the supply chain of PPE we require.

In recent months Federal agencies have inconsistently updated COVID recommendations and requirements for the general public and various segments of the work sector, including healthcare. An example is the general public requiring 5 days of quarantining and our residents requiring 10. The CDC has said healthcare personnel and residents are at higher vulnerability than the general public and therefore we must follow increased COVID protocols. The following are new recommendations and requirements visitors must follow:

- From the date of positive COVID diagnosis, you must allow 10 days to pass before you may visit. Entry is allowed on day 11.
- Visitors should wait 10 days to visit if they have had a close encounter with someone who is COVID positive.
- Individuals continuing to present symptoms past day 10 may not enter the building.
- Testing Visitors may be required per facility policy or based on exposure- we do not have a visitor testing policy in place.

As always, visitations are allowed but each visitor must be aware we have positive cases of COVID-19 and entering the building comes at a calculated risk to each visitor's health. If an individual prefers to continue with a visit, visitors are **not** to 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.

Individuals who are visiting a resident on third floor are required to wear a gown, face mask and face shield. PPE is available in the entry for visitors and must be worn upon entering third floor. When leaving the unit, the gown and face shield must be thrown away before entering the elevator, a trashcan is located next to each elevator. Please inform friends and family who do not receive updates of this information.

We would like to give a special thank you for the local Kiwanis Club for the donation of a T.V. for one of the resident solariums. Due to COVID they were unable to host their annual card night, we are grateful for their continued generosity and support. Also, a special thank you to the Family Dollar for their donation of heart balloons for our residents; this put a smile on the faces of many. The Life Enrichment

department have been rolling their wine and beer carts, snack and cocoa carts and finding creative ways to keep the residents engaged and active. Although a small department, they are spreading themselves throughout to ensure the residents continue as “normal” of a day as they can. Great work Life Enrichment crew!

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

Kindly,

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