

November 30, 2021



To Our Residents and Family Members:

Yesterday 11/29/21 we tested all of our residents on the unit that we had a positive case on 11/18/21 and we had no positive cases of COVID-19 among those residents. These residents will not have to be tested again unless they show signs and symptoms of COVID-19 or have close contact with somebody that tests positive. Today 11/30/21 we are testing unvaccinated staff and we did have a staff member that recently worked in the facility test positive for COVID-19. She did not have any close contact with any resident so we are not testing residents at this time. We did test staff that work in the employees department and all of them tested negative. Those employees will all be tested again this week and again next week.

Currently, only unvaccinated staff are required to be tested for COVID-19 on a normal basis. Regardless of vaccination status, residents and staff will be tested if they show signs and symptoms of COVID-19 or there is a positive COVID-19 test in the facility and based on contact tracing we find that we need to test the employee or resident based on close contact exposure. Unvaccinated staff only will continue to be tested every Tuesday and Friday.

We are currently having activities for residents. Residents should wear a mask at the activity and ensure proper hand hygiene is being practiced. In addition, residents will need to be socially distanced. Dining rooms have also been opened up for use. Residents are able to come to the dining room if they wish for meals and sit one resident per table. Beautician services are also up and running.

We will also still have inside visitations. We are following CDC and CMS guidelines for these inside visitations. Visitation guidance was changed effective 11/12/21. We will now be open for visitation at any time. We still are asking families to visit in the resident's room but visits will not have to be scheduled and they can take place even if there are positive cases in the facility. The facility will still give the families a surgical mask for the visit. If a resident is in quarantine, the family can still visit but will only be given a surgical mask. If the family would like additional protective equipment beyond the surgical mask it will be up to the family to bring it in on their own.

We are also allowing residents to go out with families for outings. Residents do not have to quarantine no matter if they are vaccinated or not as long as they don't have an exposure to somebody with COVID-19 symptoms and the resident is gone less than 24 hours. We ask families to call the facility and ask for the nurse of their loved one to let them know when they will be picking them up to take them out of the facility. The family member will sign the resident out when they leave and sign them back in when they return at the reception desk. Each time a family member takes a resident out of the facility they will be asked to sign a Negotiated Risk Agreement.

We did have another vaccination clinic on 11/29/21. At this clinic we gave the second dose of the Moderna Vaccine to any resident or staff that needed it. We also offered the first dose to any resident wishing to get it. The Pfizer and Moderna booster shot was also administered to any resident or staff member that was eligible and wanted to receive it.

We know this continues to be a difficult time for everyone. We will continue to update you as we have updates to give.

Sincerely,

Gabe Stoll

Gabe Stoll
Executive Director
St. Francis Senior Ministries