

---

---

## COVID-19 UPDATE

---

---

**TO:** WESTMINSTER VILLAGE RESIDENTS AND STAFF  
**FROM:** BARB NATHAN  
**DATE:** AUGUST 6, 2020

The testing situation has not improved. In fact, all the tests that were submitted for Westminster residents and employees are still in “pending” status with the laboratory. We used the same laboratory that we use on a regular basis and that we used for the prior testing. The laboratory sends these over to a reference lab who is a regional lab and does this for different laboratories. That is not an unusual procedure. The reality is that we have spoken to this reference lab multiple times a day, we have the ability to look up the results online, and we were told today that while they typically complete 1,000 tests per day, the demand is 7,000+ at this point. They do not have the capacity to handle that many tests nor the reagents to complete them.

This was extremely distressing news for us, not just for tests that have already been collected, but for the future. We have reached out to both hospitals and believe we have an alternative for future testing but I hold little hope that we will receive any results from the collection done one and two weeks ago. In fact, to get any results back at this point is meaningless. I read an article this week in which one of the largest providers of senior living in the country, Genesis Healthcare, has been experiencing the same testing challenges. In the words of their CEO, “The lab tests are nearly useless due to the slow turnaround times.”

The good news is all our residents and all our staff appear to be COVID-free. We are not the only one in this situation, and hopefully when we are able to secure the rapid tests (expected within the month) we will be able to get enough supplies to do the testing here on site.

Next week, the All Resident Meeting will air on Channel 88 on Tuesday, August 11. In that video I will update you on a number of programs we are planning as well as current updates to the COVID situation.