
COVID-19 UPDATE

TO: WESTMINSTER VILLAGE RESIDENTS AND STAFF
FROM: MATT RIEHLE
DATE: OCTOBER 30, 2020

It is amazing to think that this will be the last COVID update prior to the election next Tuesday. We are so grateful to the McLean County election officials and judges that helped coordinate a safe and secure voting space for residents of all areas on our campus yesterday. It is truly amazing how engaged our community is!

As Barb had indicated in her last memo, we started testing residents and staff of Assisted Living this week because of a staff member that had tested positive. Since this initial report we have had two additional staff persons test positive as well as one resident. As testing has continued, we have now found 4 additional positive residents. All of these residents are asymptomatic and would most likely not have been aware had it not been for this testing. They are doing well, and all appropriate precautions have been initiated. As of the writing of the update all other residents and staff were negative pending about 11 more tests. The staff of Assisted Living had implemented immediate interventions once apprised to these reports and we have taken significant steps to address this concern including changes to visitation, activities, staffing, and dining to ensure we are doing all we can to provide the safest environment possible. We appreciate the support from residents and families as they have been so helpful and understanding of these changes. We understand the importance human connection, but we need to take all reasonable steps to ensure we stop any potential spread of the virus. We have been in communication with our local Health Department on a daily basis and they continue to help us with contact tracing. If there is ever a question regarding the potential for transmission, we have always made the decision to err on the side of safety for both staff and residents and if there is even a question of someone's physical condition we have measures in place to ensure they are not in a position to be in contact with others. Staff in Assisted Living has stepped up and gone above and beyond to ensure continuity of care and we will continue to test and assess diligently over a minimum of the next 28 days.

Testing was also done this week for the residents and staff in Martin Health Center. This will be the fourth consecutive week we have tested, and we are glad to report that the

previous three weeks showed all negative results. As the area has seen an increase in cases, the labs that run these tests have seen an increase in volume, which in turn has slowed results. We do not have any reported positive tests at this time.

As for Independent Living, we are not aware of any positive cases in our community and we continue to appreciate the residents, staff, families, caregivers, and others that have been so diligent in helping us follow the guidelines and doing all that they can to help us during this increasingly difficult time. Until recently, we have been generally blessed with nice weather, which has made outdoor visits and activities much easier. However, with the change in the weather and the holiday season soon to be upon us, Westminster has updated our Independent Living guidelines to provide guidance during this time. We truly understand the importance of families and friends, of social connection and the human spirit. We also recognize that people have different medical, physical, and spiritual needs as well as some that have family close by and others that are far away. Taking all of the above into consideration, these guidelines are meant as a tool to help everyone understand our expectations of our community. These guidelines will be distributed today. Please feel free to share and they will also be available on our web page. As always, please ask if you have questions.

One day at a time. That is the phrase that seems as fitting as any right now. As much as the staff has been working and all of the preparation we do on a daily basis, it seems that it can change in a minute. We continue to ask people to hold each other up and we see evidence of that daily. None of these challenges is the result of any one person wanting something to go wrong and life is not completely in our control. Please keep lifting each other's spirits and know that we will be here every step of the way.