
COVID-19 UPDATE

TO: WESTMINSTER VILLAGE RESIDENTS AND STAFF
FROM: BARB NATHAN
DATE: JANUARY 22, 2021

This week we had two residents test positive in Martin Health Center. The four that tested positive last week are all doing well. We pray they will move out of the COVID unit and back into their rooms in good health this weekend or early next week. There are no residents hospitalized with a COVID diagnosis from the organization. The good news is none of the staff tested positive this past week. We pray that the first dose of the vaccine, that the residents received, is providing some protection from the virus as we have seen fewer symptoms in the most recent diagnoses than was seen previously.

As I wrote to you last week, we are acutely aware of the pain this pandemic has caused at end of life. The government requires that we report any resident death within 3 months of a COVID diagnosis as a COVID death. Is this accurate? I do not know but we do the right thing and do the reporting as we are required. What I do know is residents have passed away suddenly or agonizingly slow following 10 months of isolation robbing them and their families of time together. The loss of a loved one is so hard and now its even harder. We pray for all these families.

Next week will be a big week as we will vaccinate nearly 570 people here at Westminster Village. The staff will receive their vaccines on Tuesday and Thursday along with the residents of Martin Health Center and Assisted Living, and Independent Living residents will be vaccinated beginning the afternoon of Thursday, January 28 and on Friday, January 29. 99% of the residents at Westminster Village have consented to receive the vaccine. That is an incredible number, and we couldn't be more grateful or enthusiastic about it. For Independent Living, it is important that you adhere to your scheduled time. You will be receiving a reminder of that time in your mailboxes. Please do not come to the Social Center more than 5 minutes before your scheduled time as there are 24 people scheduled every hour and we want to be able to maintain social distancing. Everyone who receives the vaccine is monitored for 15 minutes.

I met today with members of the Resident Council to discuss issues of reopening some in-person activities. A decision has been made, and the Council supported it, to hold in our current state until we get everyone through their second vaccination and the time afterwards for immunity to build up. We are so close to having everyone protected. We will announce in

mid-February the changes that will be put in place on March 1. We pray that the metrics in our area continue to improve so we can go back to more in-person activities including dining.

In the last year we have recognized groups of staff as the Employees of the Month, and in January we recognized the entire staff. We will be going back to a more traditional nomination process for the Employee of the Month, so watch for new nomination forms as I know there are many staff members you would like to recognize with a nomination. The values of Westminster, which are to act with love and respect in all we do, do the right thing, and go above and beyond, could serve as your guide in recommending staff for the Employee of the Month award.

Together we are getting through this, and together we protect each other. It is very important that we continue to wear masks, maintain safe social distance and wash our hands frequently.