



**TO** Residents, Families and Staff Members  
**FROM** Frances Lachowicz *Frances Lachowicz*  
**DATE** July 13, 2020  
**SUBJ** 12-Hour Notice: Positive Test Results for One Resident, One Employee

Today we received more than half of the results for COVID-19 tests which were administered on July 10 to residents in assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing care. We also tested staff members last week, and still await the results for two. In addition, one employee independently arranged to be tested for the virus.

Two outcomes are positive: one for a resident and one for this staff member. Both are self-quarantined, with the resident recovering in the person's private suite and the employee is at home. Please join us in respecting their privacy by observing all HIPAA regulations.

Because the resident and staff member live or work in our skilled nursing care wing, all residents in this area are required to stay in their rooms and wear a mask when someone enters their residence. Staff members continue to wear appropriate PPE.

According to CMS guidelines, we continue weekly tests for residents and staff members by using a nasal swab procedure. We also have suspended outdoor visits according to CMS guidelines.

We always observe all protocols and practices directed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Illinois and Chicago Departments of Public Health, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

While we share your disappointment about our first positive test for a resident, we think it may have been inevitable that our Mercy Circle community was not spared. We also are grateful that our employees, who had positive outcomes, are recovering or already have returned to work.

If you have any suggestions or questions, please call me at 773-253-3627.