



October 9, 2020

Dear Residents, Families and Staff Members,

During our current CMS Phase Two status as a community, residents continue to enjoy outdoor visits with family and friends thanks to Chicago's pleasing weather and a heater now installed in the Courtyard reserved for us by the Sisters of Mercy. We remind everyone to review our guidelines for outdoor visitations posted on our website. And all residents are taking advantage of more ways to spend time together over meals and for religious services and activities.

Looking ahead

Mercy Circle may advance to CMS Phase Three, the highest ranking, as soon as Monday, October 12—if all pending test results for residents are negative and this new designation is approved by the Chicago Department of Public Health.

In anticipation of moving to CMS Phase Three, Mercy Circle is setting up the Wisconsin Room with indoor visitation stations early next week. When CDPH approves our Phase Three status, we will update and alert you to our new visitation guidelines posted on our website to confirm Mercy Circle can host scheduled indoor visits from 1 until 4pm on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Testing continues

On Monday, October 5, we tested 59 residents. Fifty-seven residents already received negative results; two residents, who are asymptomatic, required retesting due to a problem with their tests. Starting on Monday, we also tested 101 staff members. Ninety-six have received negative results, and we await outcomes for five employees.

In compliance with the Chicago and Illinois Departments of Public Health, we continue weekly testing for all staff members and for all assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing care residents. Independent living residents, who now are tested monthly, will be tested again in November on a date to be determined.

Please call me at 773-253-3627 to discuss your questions and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Frances Lachowicz
Executive Director