




TO Residents, Families and Staff Members
FROM Frances Lachowicz 
DATE November 5, 2020
SUBJ 12-Hour Notice: Positive Test Results for Two Residents, One Employee

Last evening, we learned two assisted living residents, who are asymptomatic and were tested on Monday, November 2, have received positive results for COVID-19. Both are in isolation and recovering in their apartments. Fifty-three other residents, also tested on Monday, have received negative outcomes; results for four residents still are pending.

Today, we received a positive test result for a member of our administrative team, who is asymptomatic and had reported to work this morning. We informed this staff member of the outcome of Monday's test, and she now is at home recuperating. In addition to this one positive result, 57 of the 101 staff members tested this week have received negative results; 43 await their reports.

Please honor all HIPAA regulations designed to protect everyone's privacy.

Mercy Circle increases precautions

The City of Chicago positivity rate on Wednesday was 10.9 percent, and Illinois reported 7,538 additional positive results on November 4, its eighth consecutive day of new cases exceeding 6,000. So, we are exercising an abundance of caution and have quarantined residents living on both floors of our assisted living wing.

We are protecting assisted living residents by

- Instituting quarantine
- Monitoring residents three times daily for symptoms
- Delivering meals to residents' apartments while communal dining is paused
- Broadcasting all activities and programs on Channel 8
- Cancelling all small group gatherings
- Suspending all visitations

Compliance with all guidelines and regulations

Following the recommendation of the Chicago Department of Public Health, all assisted living residents will be tested again on Thursday, November 5, 2020 and next Monday, November 9, to determine if there are any other positive cases related to this recent occurrence.

To comply with all regulations published by the Chicago and Illinois Departments of Public Health, we continue to test weekly all residents in our healthcare settings and all employees on our campus.

Mercy Circle diligently observes 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. We carefully monitor all residents and screen all employees to identify early signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and to detect asymptomatic individuals who may carry the virus.

We appreciate your cooperation by adhering to all the precautions we have instituted to protect both residents and staff members. Let us encourage each other to tap our spirit of resilience as we face this unprecedented challenge.

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