



TO Residents, Families and Staff Members

FROM Frances Lachowicz

DATE December 27, 2021

SUBJ Three Staff Members Tested Positive for COVID-19 This Morning

As you likely know, we anticipate the need for frequent communication as more members of our Mercy Circle community are infected with the Omicron variant. So, I have decided to limit information for these 12-hour notices to report on new cases and rely on my confidence in you to follow all our precautions, which have become part of our daily life, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

This morning, three staff members requested rapid tests and all have positive results for COVID-19. All are now home recuperating and only will return to work in accordance with CDC recommendations.

Our employees who tested positive today include

- One member of our administrative team, whose most recent day working here was Thursday, December 23, only came to our campus for a rapid test administered outside due to an onset of symptoms
- One CNA, who last assisted residents in our memory care community on Friday, asked to be tested before beginning work because this person was exposed to someone with the virus
- One server, who was working in the assisted living dining room today, began to experience symptoms

Please follow HIPAA guidelines to respect the privacy of these individuals as well as residents and other staff members who are recovering from the virus.

### ***Virtual visits will keep you connected***

For the immediate future, we ask you to consider adjusting your plans based on the current realities. Arrange for virtual visits by calling the Receptionist at extension 3600 for assistance setting up your visit. We hope you agree this is a prudent path to take as a reliable, temporary alternative to visits.

Please practice a low-risk lifestyle during this major surge of COVID-19 in Chicago and Illinois and across the country. Encourage others to do the same.

Call me at 773-253-3627 to discuss your suggestions and to ask your questions.