



TO Residents, Families and Staff Members
FROM Frances Lachowicz 
DATE December 30, 2021
SUBJ One Nurse, One Visiting Physician Have Tested Positive for COVID-19

Late yesterday, two healthcare professionals tested positive for COVID-19.

- One nurse, who had a negative outcome for a test on Tuesday, began to experience symptoms at home and came to campus for a rapid test
- One asymptomatic physician, who most recently was at Mercy Circle on Thursday, December 23, took a rapid test before planning to see patients here and received a positive outcome

Both are isolating at home as they recuperate from the virus. Our employee only will return to Mercy Circle in compliance with CDC regulations. 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 and other health challenges.

The good news is everyone, who recently tested positive, is on a path to recovering.

While nothing replaces a hug...

We urge everyone in our extended Mercy Circle family to consider how to reduce transmission this weekend.

- Families and friends, please postpone in-person visits and call 773-253-3600 to ask our staff to arrange virtual visits
- Residents, please stay in the common areas associated with your residence and consider the risk before deciding to visit someone who lives in another area here

For our part, Mercy Circle currently

- Restricts admissions to skilled nursing care only for current residents if and when the need arises
- Plans staff members' assignments with the goal of employees consistently working in only one area of our community
- Conducts rapid tests for everyone on Tuesdays and Fridays to identify new incidences of the virus because so many people are asymptomatic

Let us welcome 2022 with the wisdom and grace we learned these past two years...and with joyful anticipation of spending more time together very soon. Please call me at 773-253-3627 to discuss your suggestions and to ask your questions.