



TO Residents, Families and Staff Members

FROM Frances Lachowicz

DATE January 14, 2022

SUBJ Very Good News Update

We are concluding this second week in January with good—dare I say great?!—news to report.

- ✓ With Friday's bi-weekly rapid tests completed, we have no new cases to report for assisted living, memory care, rehab and skilled nursing care residents as well as staff members here today.
- ✓ All residents, who recently had COVID-19, have recovered and resumed their regular schedules.
- ✓ The staff members, who are recuperating at home since receiving a positive test result, are doing well and will return here soon in accordance with CDC guidelines. Please follow HIPAA guidelines to respect their privacy.

### ***Even more good news***

All residents are invited to our beloved monthly birthday celebration party on Thursday, January 20, starting at 3:30pm in the Illinois Room. We look forward to feting those who were born this month—plus just being together.

Mercy Circle has returned to providing more services too.

- The beauty shop opens for its regular hours during the week of January 17
- The Bistro takes orders for breakfast and lunch plus provides self-service beverage and fruit offerings from Tuesdays through Fridays
- The housekeeper for independent living residents returns to her regular schedule on Tuesday, January 18

### ***Current data confirms testing should continue***

Today, the Illinois Department of Public Health reported 37,048 new cases of COVID-19, an increase from 34,573 announced yesterday. Of equal concern is that 7,380 hospitalized patients set a record high for Illinois since the pandemic began.

According to the City of Chicago, one in five people living in 60655 have tested positive for COVID-19.



These facts, however, provide good reason to remain vigilant even as we savor our own community's good news.

- Mercy Circle still conducts its twice weekly testing schedule.
- We will administer a rapid test if you think you have symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19. Please contact the receptionist to schedule a rapid test.
- We ask you to weigh the benefits and risks when planning in-person visits and consider planning a virtual one while there is a high positivity rate in the area around our campus. Email [LifeEnrichment@MercyCircle.org](mailto:LifeEnrichment@MercyCircle.org) or call 773-253-3600 to arrange virtual visits.
- If you still plan to visit, carefully read the *Visitor Guidelines* posted on our website.

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