



TO Residents, Families and Staff Members  
FROM Frances Lachowicz   
DATE February 14, 2022  
SUBJ One Nurse Has Tested Positive for COVID-19

On Saturday afternoon, a nurse for assisted living residents reported to work and asked to be tested for COVID-19 due to symptoms she had begun to experience. A rapid test confirmed a positive result for the virus. The nurse last worked here on Thursday, February 10.

This employee immediately left for home to recuperate from the virus. Our staff members only return to work in accordance with CDC standards. Please follow HIPAA guidelines to respect this person's privacy.

Today, we are administering rapid tests to all assisted living residents and staff members and will test twice a week for the next 14 days and until we have no more new cases.

If residents think they may have symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, please contact the receptionist to schedule a rapid test.

### ***Clarity regarding changes in the news***

Even though most places in Illinois will no longer require wearing a mask beginning on Monday, February 28, Mercy Circle maintains its current protocols to mitigate the spread of the virus. As a senior living community with healthcare programs, Mercy Circle is included in one of the three categories—hospitals, nursing homes and some schools—where mask-wearing remains the rule.

As the incidence of new cases of COVID-19 continues to decline here, we are adjusting how I inform you about new cases of the virus when they occur. If you would like to receive notices via email when we do, send an email to Sandy Urbaniak at [SUrbaniak@MercyCircle.org](mailto:SUrbaniak@MercyCircle.org). Please type **ADD ME TO YOUR E-LIST** in the subject line. Soon, we will confirm when we will make this change.

Ask your guests to read Mercy Circle's *Visitor Guidelines* posted on our website.

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