




TO Residents, Families and Staff Members  
FROM Frances Lachowicz   
DATE March 3, 2022  
SUBJ Three Residents, Two Staff Members Tested Positive for COVID-19

A CNA, who recognized the onset of symptoms associated with the virus, visited her own healthcare provider on Sunday, February 27. Our staff member, who last cared for skilled nursing care residents on Tuesday, February 22, received a positive outcome for COVID-19. After consultation with Chicago Department of Public Health and in compliance with current guidelines, Mercy Circle tested all residents in skilled nursing care, rehab, memory care and assisted living, as well as all employees.

Tests we conducted here on Tuesday, March 1, revealed that two skilled nursing care residents had positive test results and one additional CNA working in the skilled nursing care wing also tested positive for COVID-19. All three are asymptomatic.

Following our twice weekly testing protocol today, we conducted a round of rapid tests that confirmed a third skilled nursing care resident experiencing symptoms received a positive result this morning. All other test results were negative.

All three skilled nursing care residents, who are staying in their private suites, receive care by staff members, who observe all our safety protocols to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Two staff members are recovering at home and only will return to work in compliance with CDC guidelines.

Please follow HIPAA guidelines to respect the privacy of these residents and employees as well as anyone in our community who is coping with a healthcare challenge.

### ***Recent safety protocols remain in place***

Even though Illinois citizens are no longer required to wear a mask in most places, wearing a mask is still required at all times while visiting at Mercy Circle. Our community must follow the direction of the Illinois Department of Public Health which has not yet changed our current protocols to slow the spread of COVID-19.

When you make plans with your guests, ask them to read and follow Mercy Circle's *Visitor Guidelines* posted on our website. ▼

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.

***New way to receive future notices***

At the end of March, we will streamline our way of notifying you about new cases of COVID-19 if and when they occur. To receive notices via email starting in April, send an email now to Sandy Urbaniak at [SUrbaniak@MercyCircle.org](mailto:SUrbaniak@MercyCircle.org). Please type **ADD ME TO YOUR E-LIST** in the subject line.

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