

TO Residents, Families and Staff Members

FROM Frances Lachowicz

DATE September 27, 2022

SUBJ Three Independent Living Residents, One Assisted Living Resident Have

Frances Lastronies

Tested Positive for COVID-19

Since this past Saturday, three independent living residents received positive results for COVID-19 tests administered here. One resident on Saturday and one on Monday began to experience symptoms associated with the virus and asked to be tested. Both results indicated they had contracted the virus.

This morning, we conducted testing for all residents in our independent living wing. One resident, who is asymptomatic, had a positive outcome for a test. This afternoon, an assisted living resident, who exhibited symptoms of the virus, also tested positive.

All four residents are recuperating in their apartments and will remain isolated to comply with CDC guidelines. We have encouraged these residents to stay in touch with family and friends and offered to set-up iPads and mobile phones for virtual visits. We also deliver meals to their apartments. Please respect their privacy.

## Testing scheduled as safety measures

On Wednesday, September 28, all assisted living, memory care, rehab and skilled nursing care residents are scheduled for testing. We again will test all independent living residents on Friday, September 30. And all staff members will be tested during the week.

## Be cautious as you enjoy daily life

Please be mindful of how easily COVID-19 can be transmitted even when you are fully vaccinated and have received your booster shots. If you experience any symptoms or have been exposed to someone who has the virus, please ask the receptionist to arrange for a COVID-19 test.

Even though both the City of Chicago and Cook County report low transmission levels, we encourage you to follow basic precautions. Wear a mask in public areas, especially away from our campus. Wash your hands frequently. Observe 6-foot social distancing.

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At Mercy Circle, all activities, programs and amenities remain open. By following our current practices, residents may invite guests for meals. Mass is offered at 11am on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and at 4pm on Saturdays; families and friends may join residents for these liturgies.

All guests are expected to read Mercy Circle's *Visitor Guidelines* posted on our website, before each visit and to register each time they arrive. If you have any suggestions or questions, please call me at 773-253-3627.

## **Booster Clinic**

We are in the process of scheduling a clinic here to administer the new bivalent booster shot for COVID-19. Based on our current conversations, we anticipate hosting a clinic in early October.

## Easier way to receive future notices

To receive future notices about new cases of COVID-19, please send an email to Sandy Urbaniak at SUrbaniak@MercyCircle.org. Please type ADD ME TO YOUR E-LIST in the subject line and Sandy will add you to our database.