



TO Residents, Families and Staff Members

FROM Frances Lachowicz 

DATE December 7, 2022

SUBJ Two Skilled Nursing Care Residents Have Tested Positive for COVID-19

During our scheduled testing for all skilled nursing care and rehab residents today, two long-term skilled nursing care residents had positive results for COVID-19. Both are isolated in their rooms. Please honor the privacy of these and other residents and staff members currently experiencing healthcare challenges.

Our staff members wear appropriate PPE when caring for these residents and properly dispose of their PPE each time after helping a resident. And Mercy Circle continues to adhere to all infection control guidelines.

We continue to test all skilled nursing care, rehab and assisted living residents as well as all staff members twice a week until there are no new cases of COVID-19 for 14 consecutive days.

***Recent increase of cases escalates need for caution***

Medical experts warn about the threat of three highly transmittable viruses—COVID-19, RSV and flu—that are especially worrisome for older adults who have chronic heart or lung disease. Today, the Illinois Department of Public Health reported that on Tuesday there were 1,228 new cases of the virus.

For our community to abate the spread of all these viruses, it is essential that you follow basic practices to reduce the incidences of the virus: Wear a mask in common areas here and in public spaces. Wash your hands often. Observe social distancing.

Independent living residents, who suspect they have symptoms, should ask the receptionist to schedule a test. Nurses monitor residents in healthcare settings.

All guests are required to follow Mercy Circle's *Visitor Guidelines* posted on our website before each visit and to register each time they arrive. If you are not feeling well or have symptoms associated with COVID-19 or another virus, please stay home.

***Enjoy what Mercy Circle has to offer***

While they observe these practical safety protocols, residents are encouraged to enjoy all the activities, amenities and services available to them at Mercy Circle.

Please call me at 773-253-3627 if you have any questions.