

WEEKLY UPDATE

July 10, 2020

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

We hope everyone had a fun and safe July 4th weekend! Over the holiday, and always, our staff works hard to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our facility. To date, we have a total of 38 residents and 6 staff members who tested positive for COVID-19. In response to this, we have implemented a designated COVID-19 unit and a designated Step-Down unit following the recommendations of our federal, state and local health officials. Our COVID-19 unit is located on 100 and 200 halls. This area houses our residents that received a positive COVID-19 test result, along with those who have been exposed or whose likelihood of exposure was high. Our Step-Down unit is located on 300 and 400 halls. This area houses our residents that received a negative COVID-19 test result and whose likelihood of exposure was low.

We also conducted another facility-wide testing on 7/9/2020. We administered 98 tests to residents and 73 tests to staff members. Testing will be wrapped up today. As we receive the results from this round of testing, each resident and their designated Responsible Party will receive an initial notification of the results. Follow up calls will be placed if there are any new treatment plans, physician orders, or changes in condition to any specific resident.

We continue to follow our federal, state and local health officials' recommendations and guidance for all appropriate precautions and preventative measures including the donning and doffing of required PPE, frequent hand washing, and frequent cleaning/disinfecting throughout the facility. We have scheduled an infection control assessment for Tuesday July 14, 2020 with an epidemiologist from the Harris County Public Health Department. These assessments are voluntary and provide any feedback or suggestions/recommendations on current infection control practices within Long Term Care facilities to help ensure we continue to keep our residents and staff healthy.

With the growing number of COVID-19 cases in certain areas of the country, it is also important to remember what you can do to help prevent community spread of the virus. You should wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, avoid close contact with people who are sick and people who don't live in your household by maintaining six feet of distance between you and them, cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others, cover coughs and sneezes using the inside of your elbow and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.

Please continue to check our website for weekly updates as well as notification of new cases. As always, we will notify you if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact your loved one's assigned Guardian Angel or their nurse at 281-347-8200.

Sincerely,

Kelly Linker

Kelly Linker
Administrator



July 17, 2020

To Our Valued Residents, Families and Representatives:

Please accept this letter as an update to inform you about the status of COVID in our facility and what we are doing to keep our residents and staff safe during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

We have been extremely busy administering our third round of mass testing of residents and staff on July 9th and July 10th. We can confirm that from this round of testing, 18 staff members and 76 residents tested positive for COVID-19, which brings our total number of cases to 108 cases of COVID-19.

While we are disappointed to see the increased number of cases in our facility, we knew that our numbers would likely go up as a result of mass testing. Rather than be discouraged by more known cases, we are encouraged that access to testing is improving our ability to respond to this virus and will enable us to protect our residents and staff in a more targeted way moving forward.

We are committed to seeing the number of positive cases in our facility go down and we will continue to implement and practice enhanced safety precautions recommended by our federal, state and local health officials, such as, only allowing essential personnel inside the facility, performing regular screenings for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering the building, continually monitoring residents, performing regular deep cleanings, using PPE as recommended by the CDC, providing individual activities as opposed to group activities, implementing isolation protocols as required, and reminding and encouraging staff to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community.

As a reminder, we will post updates on our facility website and we will individually notify representatives/families regarding a resident's condition if he/she tests positive for COVID-19 or is displaying symptoms of COVID-19. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at 281-347-8200.

Sincerely,

Kelly Linker

Kelly Linker
Administrator

WEEKLY UPDATE

July 2, 2020

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as Sterling Oaks Rehabilitation's weekly update to keep you informed about the status of COVID in our facility and what we are doing to keep our residents and staff safe during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

We initiated a facility wide testing last week after learning that two of our employees tested positive for COVID-19. We started receiving the results from these tests this week and notifying required parties of the results as they came in. We tested 104 residents and 101 staff members. Out of the 205 individuals tested, we received a total of 38 positive results; 34 residents and 4 employees. We knew that increased testing could mean increased numbers of positive cases, and while everyone was disappointed to receive these results (especially since we have worked so hard to keep our facility COVID-free for 3 months), we are not discouraged. We are encouraged that access to testing is improving our ability to respond to this virus and will enable us to protect our residents and staff in a more targeted way moving forward.

We are also fortunate that the majority of the positive cases are not showing any signs or symptoms. We have a dedicated COVID-19 Positive Unit for residents who tested positive and a Quarantine Unit for residents who may have had exposure with dedicated staff assigned to each area. We are planning on conducting another facility wide testing next week (date to be determined pending delivery of additional test kits). We will notify families/representatives when the date for testing has been confirmed and again as we receive your loved ones' results.

Our facility continues to follow the CDC and our local health department's guidance for all appropriate precautions and preventative measures to protect our residents and staff during this pandemic, including visitation recommendations. As such, and in accordance with the guidelines available to us, we are still continuing restrictions on visitation at this time.

We realize how difficult it is not to be able to see your loved ones, and we continue to closely monitor the situation in hopes that we can reopen for visitation soon. However, it is our responsibility to make sure your loved ones are as safe as possible and reopening our facility to visitors too soon could increase our residents' risk of exposure to COVID-19. As such, and for the safety and well-being of our residents, please continue to reach out to your loved ones through phone, FaceTime, letters and e-mail and feel free to contact us directly if you need assistance facilitating that communication.

As a reminder, only essential personnel are allowed inside the facility and we screen them for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering. Our residents are continually monitored and staff members are using PPE as recommended by the CDC. Staff is frequently reminded and encouraged to practice social distancing and to frequently wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

Please continue to check our website for updates at www.sterlingoaksrehab.com. As always, we will notify you via our website if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at 281-347-8200.

Sincerely,

Kelly Linker

Kelly Linker
Administrator



WEEKLY UPDATE

July 24, 2020

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our weekly update regarding the status of COVID-19 in our facility. Since the onset of this virus, we have had 73 residents and 30 staff members test positive for COVID-19. We anticipate being able to relocate 60 residents onto our Step-down Unit starting next week. Residents placed on the “Step-down Unit” will be monitored for an additional 14 days to ensure they do not develop any new or worsened signs and symptoms. After the 14-day monitoring period, those residents will be deemed as “recovered”! The residents that are still exhibiting signs and symptoms will be relocated onto a new COVID Positive Unit, which we anticipate to be located on the 400 hall. At this time, we do not anticipate doing future facility wide testing. Only those that exhibit new signs and symptoms related to COVID-19 will be tested if ordered by their attending physician.

As you might already know, the federal government announced last week that it is going to send point-of-care testing supplies for COVID-19 to all skilled nursing facilities in the country. We hope this means better access to testing and faster results for our staff and residents, but we will keep you posted as we get more information and details on this development. As always, we are working hard to keep everyone in our community safe and we will continue to practice the enhanced safety precautions that are known to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as only essential personnel are allowed inside the facility and we screen them for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering. Our residents are continually monitored and staff is using PPE as recommended by the CDC. Staff is frequently reminded and encouraged to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

Please continue to check our website for weekly updates as well as notification of new cases. As always, we will notify you if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at 281-347-8200.

Sincerely,

Kelly Linker

Kelly Linker
Administrator

WEEKLY UPDATE

July 31, 2020

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our weekly update regarding the status of COVID-19 in our facility. Since the onset of this virus, we have had 73 residents and 30 staff members test positive for COVID-19. The majority of our residents that tested positive remain asymptomatic. We are continuing to monitor them for at least another week before we can deem 60 of our residents as officially “recovered”! We have not had a confirmed positive case since our last mass testing earlier this month. As of right now, we do not have any confirmed plans to perform another mass testing, but are continuing to monitor and follow the guidance from the Harris County Public Health Department along with Texas Health and Human Services.

As always, we are working hard to keep everyone in our community safe and we will continue to practice the enhanced safety precautions that are known to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as only essential personnel are allowed inside the facility and we screen them for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering. Our residents are continually monitored and staff is using PPE as recommended by the CDC. Staff is frequently reminded and encouraged to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

Please continue to check our website for weekly updates as well as notification of new cases. As always, we will notify you if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at 281-347-8200.

Sincerely,

Kelly Linker

Kelly Linker
Administrator

Sterling Oaks Rehabilitation
COVID-19 NOTIFICATION

07/07/2020

Number of additional confirmed COVID-19 cases: 3

Please continue to check our website for additional updates and information on what we are doing to help prevent further spread of COVID-19 in our facility.

If you have any questions or concerns about this notification, please contact us directly at 281-347-8200.