

WEEKLY UPDATE

September 10, 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 88 residents and 37 staff members test positive for COVID-19. With the assistance of Harris County Public Health Department, we conducted a third round of testing on September 4th on those individuals with negative results and no new positive cases were identified. As of next week, we anticipate having the remaining 6 residents still residing on our Step-Down Unit to be reunited with the general population on the Negative Unit!

As mentioned last week, it was announced that CMS is mandating routine testing for all nursing facility staff members. The frequency of these tests is based on the county's positivity rate where the facility is located. Currently, Harris County is sitting around 7.8%, which means we are required to conduct weekly tests on negative staff only. Resident testing is only mandated if any resident shows signs or symptoms of COVID-19, or if an outbreak occurs within the facility. This will continue until the county's positivity rate drops to 5% or less; at that point we would reduce our testing frequency to once a month.

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