

11/7/20

Good afternoon everyone. We hope this note finds you well. Unfortunately, as the number of positive cases in our region as well as our nation continues to rise, we too continue to be faced with more positive cases from our staff.

At this time we have a total of 10 staff that tested positive this week. Through our diligent efforts of minimizing the risk of exposure to the virus, several of these staff members had already been off work because of potential exposure.

Due to the number of staff testing positive, all units of the nursing home will remain a 'Yellow Zone' - in quarantine. Nursing Home residents' tests this week are not all back yet. OLAR residents are being tested today. Please note that currently face - to - face visits are still suspended. However, virtual visits can be scheduled.

On a positive note we were once again awarded as the 2020 Hometown Favorite winner for the Best Nursing Facility. Thank you everyone!!!

Also, the three novices, who have been with us since October 5 for their Mission and Ministry experience, are returning to the Carmelite Sisters' motherhouse today. It was a positive experience for them to experience the 'Ministry in Action' here at Garvey and OLAR, and a positive experience for us to have them in the fervor and exuberance of their youth as they engaged in ministry to the Residents along with the other Sisters and Staff. We will continue to pray for them as they continue their formation in preparation to their religious profession of Vows.

God Bless. Thank you all for the prayers and understanding during these continued challenges.

11/14/20

Good afternoon everyone.

I hope you all will be able to enjoy the beautiful upcoming weekend weather! We wanted to remind everyone of a few things.

When dropping off deliveries, please DO NOT leave money, checks, gift card, sensitive documents, hearing aids, glasses or anything of value be delivered to the tent for residents. If such items need to be given to a resident, the please make arrangements with social services to get these items to the resident.

Also if you wish to drop off an electronic device for a resident, YOU will need to set it up before delivering to the facility. All our IT staff is permitted to do with such devices is connect them to our Wi-Fi. I.T. cannot set up passwords, connect credit cards, or any other such personal tasks related to these devices.

The dramatic rise in cases in the state and particularly in our county which is now at over 8% positivity is distressing to us. It is not surprising that this has affected us being that we have almost 300 staff members with multiple levels of connections in the community.

We are sorry to inform you that during this weeks mandatory testing, 4 additional staff members have been identified as positive.

This will unfortunately extend our quarantine for at least 2 weeks from now.

Resident test results have not all been returned. Families will be notified if particular residents are involved or affected.

Due to the need to limit the number of staff entering each resident unit and the need to cohort residents to their units, please be aware that the scheduling of virtual visits must be revised and limited to particular units on particular days. We are sorry for this inconvenience but will make every attempt to accommodate requested virtual visits for all residents.

All staff members and residents will be tested again next week.

This surge will affect all of us in one way or another. We hope you maintain safety for yourselves and your families. Please know that we are doing our utmost to quickly identify any potential exposure to the virus, to contain any spread, and taking all other necessary measures to keep residents and staff safe.

Last week, Dr. Rachel Levine advised the public to alter holiday plans so as to decrease potential exposure. The CDC issued guidance today in this same regard. The upcoming holiday celebrations will have to be dictated by the scope of the pandemic.

As always, thank you all for your unwavering support, prayers, and understanding during these continued challenges. God bless you please stay safe!