

January 19, 2021

To the families of our Residents,

Once again, I write to update you on the most current situation regarding the Covid-19 Pandemic as it affects our facility since my update on Friday, January 15, 2021:

- Residents of the Nursing Home were tested Monday, January 18. One additional positive case was identified on the C-1 Unit. C-1's status as Yellow Zone is extended.
- Several residents who tested positive completed their quarantine period and are considered recovered.
- Three residents left our caring hands to be received into the arms of God. May they rest in peace. Our sympathy and prayers are extended to their families.

Regarding Staff

- We will test staff twice a week for at least the next three weeks based on the Blair County positivity rate being well above 11%.
- One staff person tested positive so far this week. Testing today is not yet completed.

Vaccine update

- We received confirmation from CVS Pharmacy that they will administer vaccines to residents and staff January 23 & 24 - The 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccine for those who already had the first, the first vaccine for those who have not yet received it, but wish to have it. Eligibility to receive the vaccine depends on medical conditions when the vaccine is to be given. Resident's visiting and quarantine status do not depend on getting the vaccine.

Several families inquired about the possibility of having indoor face-to-face, indoor visits with residents. According to the PA Dept. of Health, we MAY NOT have face-to-face visits until the BLAIR COUNTY POSITIVITY RATE is below 10% for two consecutive weeks. When we are able, based on a resident's quarantine status, we can arrange window visits instead of virtual visits. Please inquire about this when you call to schedule a virtual visit. The person scheduling will let you know if a window visit with your loved one is possible. To make visits a little more comfortable for families during cold weather, we erected two temporary "Visitation Huts" on the main building front porch. There are windows and heaters in the Huts. Hut visits are limited to two persons at a time. Our Lady of the Alleghenies' visits take place in the Residence foyer.

We also erected a more stable canopy for deliveries. Deliveries of personal items for residents are still sometimes a problem with items not in plastic bags tied shut, items not labeled with residents' name and room and the name of person bringing the item. We cannot track or deliver unlabeled items when several bags come at the same and there is not a name on each bag.

We hope the present outbreak will continue to subside, especially as the antibodies stimulated by the vaccine begin to build protection for residents and staff. Please continue to keep us in your prayers. God Bless you, and please stay safe in your own community circulation with others.

***Sr. Joachim Anne, Administrator***