

May 25, 2021

Dear Families,

I was hoping to provide you with a positive communication this week. Unfortunately, our testing on Monday, May 24th, identified four additional positive residents (currently asymptomatic) and one additional positive employee. I am also saddened to report that another resident went to God's loving hands this past weekend while in the hospital.

Due to these additional positive cases, we have to quarantine our C2 and D2 units in addition to the C1 and D1 units. This quarantine will last at least two weeks. Any in-person visits scheduled for residents on these four units will need to be converted to virtual visits.

Residents on E1 and E2 can continue to receive in-person visits. Residents in OLAR also can continue to receive in-person visits.

I am addressing some questions that have been sent from families within the past week, which many of you may have as well.

- Are those testing positive vaccinated or unvaccinated?
Over the past two weeks, the positive test results have occurred with fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated, and unvaccinated individuals. A confirmatory PCR laboratory test is performed for all positive rapid tests.
- Are contract workers screened? Every person entering our building is screened for signs/symptoms of COVID-19, high risk activities, and temperature. If we have contractors in the building for an ongoing project, they are tested when our employees are tested.
- Why is Garvey Manor still following such restrictive measures when the CDC is loosening restrictions?
Long-term care facilities are held to different and more stringent standards than the general public. We receive updated guidance frequently (sometimes multiple updates or changes in a week). We have amended our policies and procedures in response to the updates we receive, but are held to follow these to the letter, and most especially, when a case is detected among residents or employees.

We are required to submit data related to cases and vaccinations to the DOH on a regular basis.

We will test all residents and employees again this Thursday, May 27th.

Joann Kasun

Assistant Administrator