

September 9, 2021

To the families of the residents in Garvey Manor Nursing Home

As I informed you yesterday, due to a positive exposure, we have to quarantine the first floors C-1 and D-1 Units. Unfortunately, in person visits for residents on those units are suspended at this time until at least September 21, 2021. Virtual visits for residents on those units can be scheduled using the same dial in system that we have in place.

Residents who reside on C-2, D-2, E-1 and E-2 **may have in person visits resumed as of today. visits can be resumed as previously scheduled. Additional visits can be scheduled using our established process.**

All residents and staff were tested yesterday, with no positive tests identified except the one we reported to you yesterday. All staff will be tested again this week and next week. Residents will be tested as required.

As I reported to you before, the President issued the intent to mandate vaccines for staff and residents in long term care facilities. We have not received any guidance of the Federal Government regarding implementation of the mandate yet. We are moving toward that goal anyway as quickly as possible even before the government guidance is issued. We know many people have strong feelings against the vaccine, but in the healthcare setting, such as ours we believe it is our ethical duty to do all we can for the common good of those we care for and those we minister with. The vaccine is the best means we have available to us world-wide to do this, along with the other measures we already have in place. We know that some will have valid medical or religious exemptions, but these are the exceptions, not the rule. Through our Pharmacy, we offer the vaccine on a regular basis and are now giving the booster shots to residents and staff who were vaccinated in the first vaccine clinics back in January, 2021.

We strongly encourage that all associated with us be vaccinated to help stop or at least decrease the impact of the Covid virus infecting anyone associated with us, as the various strains are resulting from the world-wide spread.

Thank you for your understanding and support in these matters. We are trying to maintain the safest environment possible, and trying to be extra cautious to keep resident Covid free. Staff are instructed in all the proper procedures of infection control and ongoing monitoring is taking place throughout the facility. We know the rapid spread in the community affects all of us, and

we again advise you who visit Garvey Manor or Our Lady of the Alleghenies to please maintain your own safety precautions, get vaccinated if possible and do not visit if you or any family members have had any potential exposure or have symptoms that may be Covid related.

Sister Joachim Anne, Administrator