

April 29, 2022

To the Residents and families of Residents of Garvey Manor and Our Lady of the Alleghenies,

During the Easter weekend, we had the opportunity for many family members to visit and for some residents to go off site with families for visits. It was such a blessing, unlike Easter last year, when we were under severe Covid restrictions.

Not unexpectedly, cases of Covid in the community are now rapidly rising, just about 2 weeks after Easter.

Unfortunately, I have news that is not so good to report. As of today, 5 residents and possibly 5 staff members tested positive for Covid-19. Having received a vaccine and booster is not a guarantee that Covid will not be contracted.

Usually those who are vaccinated and have had a booster have less severe symptoms if they contract Covid. We hope that is the case for those who tested positive, and any others that may test positive in the future.

Please be aware that we are considered in an Outbreak status within the entire facility.

We advise you of your own possible risk of acquiring Covid if you visit anywhere in the building while we are in an outbreak.

The C-1 Unit of the Nursing Home is a YELLOW ZONE.

- We request no visitors to the C-1 Unit.
- If visitors must come to the C-1 unit, check with the nurse before going to a resident room.
- Personal Protective garb must be worn if visiting any resident on C-1. It must be put on properly and removed properly. SEE STAFF FOR ASSISTANCE
- Residents from that unit are not to leave the unit.
- Visits must take place in the resident's room, with the door closed.

Throughout the facility,

- MASKING AT ALL TIMES IS ESSENTIAL.
- HAND HYGIENE WHEN ENTERING THE BUILDING, BEFORE ENTERING RESIDENT ROOM & WHEN LEAVING THE RESIDENT ROOM IS ESSENTIAL.

WE ALSO ASK YOU TO BE AWARE OF ANY SYMPTOMS YOU MAY HAVE THAT MIGHT INDICATE COVID – EVEN MILD COLD SYMPTOMS. If another family member has symptoms or tests positive you may have been exposed to Covid. Please advise the Nursing Supervisor if you visited a resident within the last two weeks and you had symptoms, were possibly exposed to Covid and/or if you tested positive for Covid.

It is unfortunate that there is a resurgence in our community, and especially within our facility. We will continue to monitor residents and test as indicated. We hope to be able to contain the outbreak to only one unit. We ask for your cooperation and assistance in keeping all our residents safe.

On another note, I want to inform you that on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, the Altoona Water Authority will be doing work on our meter that requires shut off of all water to our facility. From approximately 6AM, and for up to 8 hours, we will not have any water service in the facility. We have contingency plans prepared to service the facility, the residents and staff during that time. We will have very limited restroom access for visitors. We advise visitors not to visit that day, if at all possible, due to the inconvenience of the situation

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Sister Joachim Anne, Administrator