

COVID-19 UPDATE

12-31-2020 – COVID Positive Results

Dear Residents and Family Members:

Today, New Year's Eve, many of us will not be celebrating as usual but will be anxiously awaiting the end of 2020. More than any other year that I can remember, we are looking forward to, and praying for better days and happier times in the New Year. Unfortunately, this last posting of 2020 is not filled with good news, but it is also not unexpected as COVID cases in our area are surging. We were notified between 12/30 and 12/31/20 that seventeen of our residents have tested positive for COVID-19. There are now a total of 26 residents quarantining in the designated COVID section where they will be closely monitored for 14 days. In addition, there are six residents being treated in the hospital currently, and we are hoping for their speedy recoveries and return to us.

In addition, over the last two days, we are also in receipt of positive COVID results for seven staff members. They were notified and instructed to quarantine at home for 14 days, and we are doing contact tracing to identify any other residents and/or staff that may have been exposed. As required, all these results have been reported to the New York State and Dutchess County Departments of Health who are advising us on how to proceed.

Despite this discouraging news, yesterday brought renewed hope to this facility as Walgreen's staff administered the first of two doses of the COVID vaccine to our residents and staff. 88 residents and 81 staff were vaccinated on Wednesday, and on 1/20/21 they will receive their second doses, along with anyone who did not receive dose #1 yesterday. Staff is, of course, monitoring for any potential side effects, but none have been identified currently.

As a follow-up, I am pleased and proud to report that the unannounced New York State Department of Health focused infection control survey conducted here on Monday, again, resulted in no infection control deficiencies. During their exit conference, they made some minor recommendations but were very complimentary of LCC, overall.

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day will be quieter than usual, but we will do our best to make it festive for our residents with a special meal, music, and an enthusiastic staff. LCC staff, or more appropriately, LCC healthcare heroes continue to go above and beyond during this crisis, with many forgoing planned time off and returning to help out wherever possible, while so many of their coworkers are quarantining at home. We are truly blessed to have them on our team.

Speaking of blessings, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our many families and friends that have been supporting our work this holiday season with generous donations to the facility. Despite tough times so many are experiencing, contributions are still arriving daily with notes of thanks for the care we are providing for your loved ones in your absence. This show of appreciation makes us want to work even harder to pay it forward to our residents! Thank you for your kindness!

During this difficult holiday season when you can't be with your loved ones, I urge you to stay connected to them through virtual visits. Due to heavy demand, please contact Carolyn, as soon as possible for an appointment for your FaceTime, Skype, or Zoom visit, if you have not done so already. She can be reached at **845-235-8230 or 845-235-8231**.

Our Nurse Managers, Social Workers and the Director of Nursing are here for your resident-specific questions or concerns, so contact them for any support or information you require. While there is light at the end of the tunnel with a COVID vaccine, don't get lax as we approach the end of the holiday season. Please avoid any gatherings other than with those in your own household, get tested, and most importantly, wear a mask! Be safe and Happy New Year to all!

Please continue to monitor this website for additional information, if necessary.

Patricia Ludington, RN
Administrator