

October 30, 2020

Hello Everyone,



Another week passes us by and so begins our transition into darkness. No not COVID... the time change coming this weekend 😊

Once again everything here is going well and we like it like this. Today we had crazy hair day, ghosts and goblins, tricks and treats for everyone; it was a lot of fun spearheaded by our Life Enrichment staff.

We have moved to the new state testing program and tested 10% of our staff on Tuesday. We have not received any results as of this writing. As I mentioned last week, all facilities in the state are now on a 28-day cycle: 10% of staff, 100% of staff, 10% of staff, 10% of staff. Catholic Charities is currently looking into continuing the every 14-days testing and a decision should be made soon.

Manchester and Nashua continue to be a **red zone** with increased cases of COVID which means that we continue to remain in phase 1.

- We can still have indoor and/or outdoor (window) visitation
- Per the state no designated support person (CMS doesn't recognize this anyway)
- No therapy animals allowed

The following will continue to remain in place:

- All staff continues to be screened before entering the facility.
- We continue to do testing of all staff per the state guidelines.
- All staff are wearing surgical mask at all times throughout the facility.
- All staff are wearing eye protection on the resident/patient units.
- All residents on all floors are still being encouraged to stay 6' apart and wear mask.
- Residents can attend small group dining, church, and activities.
- The annex and part of the 4th floor rehab section are our holding zones for incoming rehab patients needing to be on a 14-day quarantine. It also serves as a quarantine area for any resident having to go out overnight for a hospital stay.

Today I am including some statistics off the NH web site that shows that positive cases are going up in the state.

The state total positivity case rate is 100 per 100,000 – substantial transmission overall for the state. Wednesday on our zoom meeting (we have once a week) we had 3 counties in the red zone with substantial transmission and now we have 4.

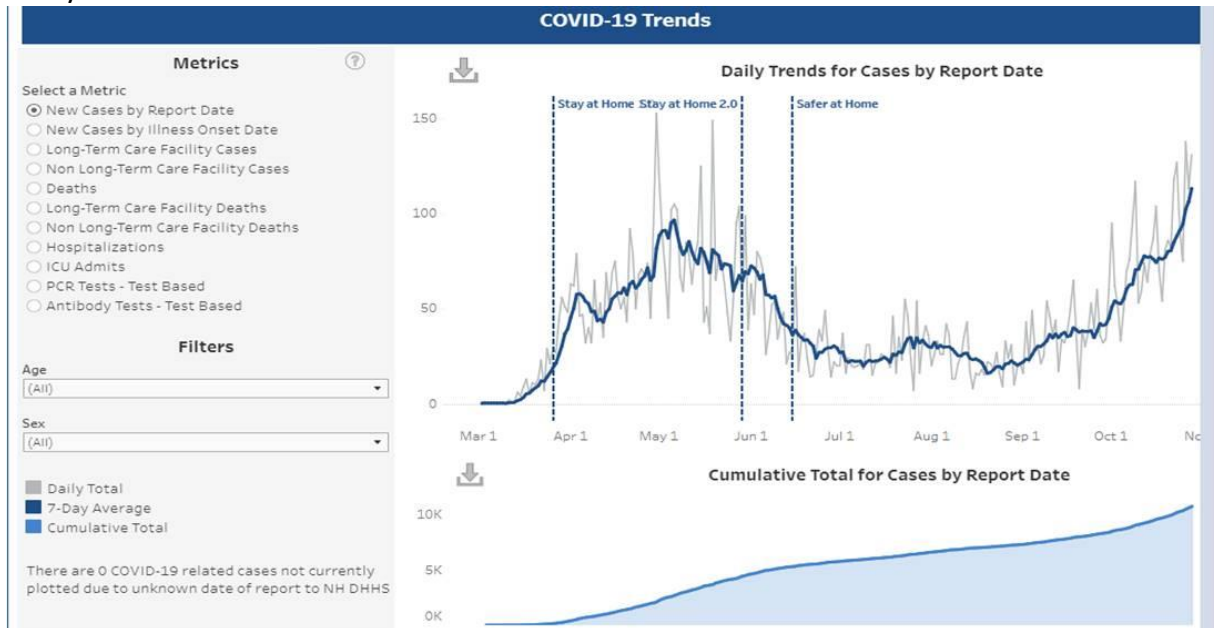
New cases per 100,000 over 14 days:

Hillsborough – 106- substantial transmission
Manchester – 157 – substantial transmission
Merrimack – 132 – substantial transmission
Nashua- 119- substantial transmission
Rockingham – 106 – substantial transmission
Strafford – 75 – moderate transmission
Belknap – 80 – moderate transmission
Coos – 114 – substantial transmission

Current actual cases:

Hillsborough – 188
Manchester – 128
Nashua- 76
Rockingham – 262
Strafford – 83
Belknap – 41
Coos – 30
Merrimack – 181

7-day trend:



From Barbara, Director of Life Enrichment Services:

Great News! The online scheduling for visits is ready. When planning a visit, please plan in advanced; the online scheduling program will not allow you to schedule a visit within 72 hours. For the families that had already scheduled a visit with Barbara for this coming week or the next, your visit is all set.

Holiday Visits:

In anticipation of the upcoming Holidays we know visits will be in high demand. I am referring to the actual days of Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day. To be as fair as possible, we have decided to have families that want a visit on one of these particular days to send in a request to me at mtc.activitydir@nh-cc.org. Please indicate which of the three you would prefer and it's ok to request all of them, just indicate your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice. If the number of requests exceeds the number of available spots, all received requests will go into a raffle and we will draw names to see what families will get a visit on one of these three days. We feel this will make it most fair for everyone. Also, our plan is to try to accommodate as many families as possible the week before these two holidays with the possibility of extended visiting hours. More will come out on this soon.

Today we had our Halloween celebration, with crazy hair day for the residents, staff costume parade, and a spooky traveling cart with pumpkin ice cream and candy. The residents loved it, and we got some great pictures; I will send some out next week. If you have not emailed me permission to send you pictures via email and you would like them, please send me an email giving permission (don't forget to include your loved ones name).

Speaking of crazy hair day... The hairdresser will be starting back on Tuesday!!!! Before you call to schedule an appointment please know she will only be here part time. We have decided to send all the men through first as they are beginning to look like hippies 😊. Once they are done, we will work with Donna to prioritize the women from all floors. I don't think there is anyone that shouldn't be first on her list. Please be patient. Also, as we are bringing Donna back as an employee and not a contracted vendor, she cannot receive any tips; CMS does not allow gifting of any employee.

Virtual talent contest videos are coming in slowly, (deadline is next Friday) we could really use more, and would like to encourage families to submit videos 2-3 minutes long. We are so excited to be able to share your family talent with the residents.

From last week's letter:

Life Enrichment is asking family members to participate in a virtual talent show. This would include families sending (by email or flash drive), in a **2-3-minute video** of a **family member** performing, their special talent. Once we receive the videos we will upload them to our own in-house TV station for Resident's to watch and vote on. If you are interested, please send the video to my email (include residents name, and the performers name, and relationship to the resident). All videos need to be submitted by Friday November 6th. Please email any questions that you may have. We look forward to your participation in this fun event!

Have a good week!

Sincerely,
Joe Bohunicky, NHA, MBA, Administrator
Mt. Carmel Rehabilitation and Nursing Center
235 Myrtle St.
Manchester, NH 03104
P: 603-627-3811 -- F: 603-626-4696