

December 31, 2020



Here is my general update for the week. Please note that this will be my last letter sent to you until next year 😊

We have now received test results for all staff from Monday's testing and residents from Tuesday's testing. We had three staff members who tested positive; one has not been in the facility since last Thursday and the other two are admin staff that had no resident exposure. All residents were negative 😊

Because of the staff positivity, we were put back into an "outbreak" status by the city health department. This puts us in Phase 0; meaning we are closed to admissions; all residents are on precautions; staff are in full PPE; no group activities; no dining in groups; and **no visitation (window visits)** except for compassionate care visits. We will stay in Phase 0 until we have 14 days with no positive results after the last positive case.

The following is currently in place:

- We continue to check for symptoms on all residents three times a day.
- All residents are on precautions.
- All residents will be tested weekly until further notice (directed by health department).
- All staff are screened before entering the facility.
- All staff are being tested bi-weekly.
- Staff are in full PPE (personal protective equipment) on all floors at all times.
- We are closed to new admissions.

Vaccine News:

Some of you have asked if visitation would change once the residents received the vaccine. As of now everything we do will remain the same (processes and procedures). There are too many unknowns as to what the vaccine will or won't do at this time. We continue to get weekly updates from NH DHHS.

What we were told thus far is that the vaccine should prevent a person receiving it less complications including death should they contract COVID. Again, this is what is expected but yet to be proven. This also takes a few weeks after the second dose (January 13th) to take effect.

If you are the family member of one of the 12 residents that did not receive the vaccine last week, we highly encourage to sign up to receive it on January 13th. This will be your last chance to receive it as far as we have been told at this time. The second dose will then be given the first week in February.

Positivity Rates:

These are the county positivity rates collected before December 28. Long term care facilities in outbreak, or post outbreak are in phase 0 for 14 days after outbreak is resolved and based on state county positivity rates, none of our CCNH facilities is higher than phase 1 at this time.

Belknap County, NH	Micropolitan	16.3%	Red
Carroll County, NH	Non-core	9.3%	Yellow
Cheshire County, NH	Micropolitan	10.7%	Red
Coos County, NH	Micropolitan	6.8%	Yellow
Grafton County, NH	Micropolitan	7.3%	Yellow
Hillsborough County, NH	Medium metro	15.6%	Red
Merrimack County, NH	Micropolitan	16.2%	Red
Rockingham County, NH	Large fringe metro	16.4%	Red
Strafford County, NH	Large fringe metro	13.3%	Red

From Barbara, Director of Life Enrichment Services:

Today Life Enrichment will be going door to door with a beer, wine and treat cart. We have put together a list of TV specials, and a schedule for programs that we have added to our TV channel. Residents will be staying in their rooms, but can come out for Rehab Services, and one on one with staff to walk or do an activity on their unit with a staff member. Fr. Cote will be coming in on New Year's Day to bring Mass live to the resident's rooms, via the TV. We are putting activity packets together, with various work sheets, New Year's facts & fun, and activity kits. Google visits can be set up by calling each floor directly. Happy New Year!

Wishing you all a Happy New Year; one filled with hope of a renewed normalcy for our residents, family members and staff. If everyone in the US/(and the world's population) worked together, we could put COVID behind us in a short period of time. One can only hope.....

Please stay safe!

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