

## **WEEKLY UPDATE**

**09/20/2021**

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our update regarding the status of COVID-19 in our facility. Since the onset of this virus in 2019, we have had sixteen residents and thirty one staff members test positive for COVID-19. Today we do not have any positive residents or staff.

As always, we are working hard to keep everyone in our community safe and we will continue to practice the enhanced safety precautions that are known to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as only essential personnel are allowed inside the facility and we screen them for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering. Our residents are continually monitored and staff are using PPE as recommended by the CDC. Staff is frequently reminded and encouraged to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness. The facility will utilize their county's COVID positivity rate in the prior week as the trigger for staff testing frequency. Currently, our county is in the red and per CDC and DHEC guidelines that means unvaccinated staff are tested every 3-7 days. All staff and residents are highly encouraged to be vaccinated against Covid 19 to help prevent severe symptoms from the virus and to help decrease the spread of Covid 19.

Our indoor visits remain suspended. Indoor Visitation will remain suspended per DHEC guidelines following the rise in positivity rates in the community to 14.4%. This is a slight increase from last week, we will have to continue to suspend indoor visits. We have updated our unvaccinated staff COVID 19 testing to meet monitoring requirements when rates have risen to this level. New rules will be in place on visitation until the county's positivity rate is less than 10% for 2 consecutive weeks. We will be following detailed guidance on visitation posted on DHEC website found here: <https://scdhec.gov/covid19/guidance-healthcare-professionals-covid-19/nursing-homes-covid-19>.

Please contact facility at 855-573-8466 to schedule an appointment for window visits. Specific visitation rules are asked to be followed and will be communicated with you upon the appointment arrange and arrival at our building.

Please continue to check our website for regular updates as well as notification of new cases. As always, we will notify you if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at Senior Care of Marion.

Sincerely,

Christine Flansburg, RN LNHA