

## **WEEKLY UPDATE**

**12/20/2021**

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 seventeen residents and thirty one staff members test positive for COVID-19.

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 green for 2 weeks. Per CDC and DHEC guidelines, that means unvaccinated staff are tested minimum of monthly. 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.

Indoor Visitation has resumed, appointments are encouraged due to availability of visitation room but not required. Our County positivity rate this week is at 2.3%. This is a slight decrease from last week. We have updated our unvaccinated staff COVID 19 testing to meet monitoring requirements when rates are at this level. 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 the visitation room to ensure availability. Outdoor visits do can occur at any time. 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.

As the percentage positive in the community drops, please be diligent in wearing face coverings, washing your hands and continue to practice safe social distancing.

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

Sincerely,

Christine Flansburg, RN LNHA

Dena Stewart RN DON