

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Dear Family and Friends,

Last week when I wrote I was able to reassure you that there were no signs of Covid-19 among the Residents and staff of Jeanne Jugan Residence. Unfortunately today I write with less positive news. In the past week 7 members of our staff have tested positive for Covid-19. Several of these employees are direct caregivers.

As of today one Resident has tested positive and is hospitalized. Testing is pending for several other Residents who have begun to show Covid symptoms.

In addition, several Residents have passed away in the past two weeks. While none of them was tested for Covid-19 and all had significant pre-existing conditions, it is possible that the virus played a part in their deaths. All of them were cared for here at the Home in their own rooms, with the same measures of comfort care that the dying receive in our Home under normal conditions.

I am sure that this news is a concern and a source of anxiety to you. I want to reassure you that we continue to follow all guidelines for homes for the elderly from DC Health, CDC and the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS). We are continuing to monitor all the Residents' temperatures and vital signs several times a day and to ask all Residents to remain in their rooms. Staff temperatures and possible symptoms are also monitored on every shift.

I encourage you to continue communicating daily with your loved one here in the Home, and to contact us at any time with your questions or concerns. If you would like to see your relative face-to-face please let us know and we will be happy to arrange a visit through a window or via face time technology.

To all of our Resident families who have lost a loved one, and to any of you who have lost family members or friends during the pandemic, we extend our sincerest sympathy and our heartfelt prayers.

We want to assure you of the commitment of everyone at Jeanne Jugan Residence to keeping the Residents and staff safe, healthy and happy, no matter how long the pandemic continues.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

God bless you,
Sr. Mary Michael and all the Little Sisters