

May 12, 2020

Dear Residents, Families and Friends of Jeanne Jugan Residence,

I hope that you and your family had a lovely Mother's Day, despite our current circumstances, and that you were able to connect with your loved one here at Jeanne Jugan Residence. The daughter of one of our former Residents fixed individual treat bags for the Residents, and included a personal note for each one, as a way of honoring her mother.

I have relatively good news to report this week. Although a large number of Residents have contracted Covid-19 since the beginning of the pandemic — 21 out of 29 Residents on the two nursing units have tested positive — most of them are being cared for here at the Residence. Some of these Residents are now ready for retesting. One Resident was hospitalized this week at the request of their representative.

Only 1 new employee has become symptomatic this week; test results for this individual are pending. Two staff who were on quarantine are now back to work. No new Little Sisters have tested positive and Sr. Albina and I have now returned to our regular duties after being released from quarantine. We are very, very grateful for your prayers and support over the past few weeks.

Unfortunately 1 Resident died of Covid-19 this week, bringing the total of deceased Residents to 3. We offer our sympathy and the support of our prayers to the families of those who have passed away.

We continue to follow all of the isolation, disinfection and containment measures described in last week's update. Ongoing guidance from the District's epidemiology team has been particularly helpful.

We are also grateful for the solicitousness of family members, benefactors, of FEMA and DC Health in helping to procure medical supplies for our staff to use while caring for the Residents. These supplies are quickly being consumed due to our number of positive cases, so we are still in need of disposable isolation gowns, gloves, disposable shoe and head coverings, and any type of hand sanitizer and hand wipes.

We also wish to thank you for raising awareness of the needs of the elderly among your friends and family members, and for the gestures of appreciation and gratitude offered to our devoted staff.

Our dietary manager has reported delays in the fulfillment of food orders and shortages of some items. We could use donations of the following items: jars of seedless jelly, breakfast cereals such as Corn Flakes, Frosted Flakes, Mini Shredded Wheat, Raisin Bran, Cheerios, Special K (plain), as well as tomato/Marinara sauce, orange juice, almond milk, yogurt (4oz. or 6oz.). We would also be grateful for a supply of 8 or 9 oz. hot cups, which are easy for the Residents to handle, as well as paper napkins for their trays.

Finally, we are trying to compile enough email addresses of our Residents' families that we could send these updates via email and thus get them out to you more rapidly. If you or another person are legally named on your loved one's chart to be contacted, please forward your email and the Resident's name to Cindy Finelli at sswashington@littlesistersofthepoor.org

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