

October 6, 2023

Dear Family and Friends,

This letter is to update you on our current situation here in our Home and to bring you the good news that we are now considered to be in a “No Outbreak Phase” as defined by “no new COVID-19 cases in Residents or staff for 14 days or as determined by DC Health.” All our Residents and staff recently affected by COVID-19 are out and about. The Residents have resumed their preferred activities and are participating in social gatherings, communal dining, as well as services in the Chapel.

On the one hand, this “No Outbreak Phase” would present an invitation for the mask-mandate to be lifted for visitors, volunteers, and contractors. But on the other hand, we have experienced how quickly COVID can infiltrate into our facility and spread unsuspectingly amongst our Residents and Staff. So, we count on each one to remain vigilant and to wear a face mask according to one’s preference. It is mandatory however, that **all** staff wear a face mask during direct Resident care and while on the units.

We would like to notify you that we are preparing for a vaccination clinic provided by CVS here at the Home on October 24, 2023 where the Residents, Sisters, and Staff will be receiving the flu and COVID-19 vaccine. It has been proven that the signs and symptoms of the flu and Coronavirus have been milder due to this extra protection.

While enjoying time together with your family and friends during the upcoming holidays, we wish to remind everyone to be vigilant in large gatherings and to do everything you can to assure proper hand hygiene and infection control protocols. We still ask that you complete the screening process at the front desk when you come in, as this assists us with contact-tracing purposes if someone becomes sick. We strongly encourage you to stay home if you are not feeling well. We continue to ask that you refrain from visiting the facility if you have had a recent exposure to someone with COVID-19 or have had a positive test result for Covid-19.

We appreciate all you do to help keep our Residents safe. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Daisy Alzate, DON or Sister Alphonse Marie, Administrator at (202) 269-1831.

God bless you.

Mother Margaret Regina