

June 13, 2022

Dear Families and Friends,

In recent months, we have been blessed in many ways. As we emerged out of the cold wintry temperatures, I arrived at the end of March as the new Superior here at Jeanne Jugan Residence and am getting acclimated to the lay of the land! More recently we have enjoyed warmer weather, but as you know must still be vigilant while participating in large group activities since several COVID variants seem to be lurking about and are highly contagious.

Unfortunately, our Home, which had been COVID-free free since January, is now in the first phase of a COVID outbreak. The first round of facility-wide PCR testing among the Residents and staff was completed on June 8. The results are as follows:

- 10 Residents on the nursing units and 9 staff members from various departments throughout the Home tested positive for the coronavirus. All will remain in isolation for 10 days.
- 7 1st floor Residents who may have been exposed are temporarily quarantined and are monitored closely for any symptoms.

Here is a brief summary of how we move through “Outbreak Initiation Phase” and subsequent phases. To view the complete guidance, please see the link below: https://coronavirus.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/coronavirus/page_content/attachments/Guidance_SNF_ALR_DCHealth_COVID-19_2022-3-21-updated.pdf

- Communal dining, group activities and non-essential appointments are suspended temporarily.
- Weekly facility-wide testing of all staff, Sisters and Residents will be done. If there are no other Residents or staff who test positive next week, the facility will be placed in a “Controlled Outbreak Phase” as we follow DC Health guidelines for *Health Care facilities*.
- We will still need 2 consecutive weeks of 100% negative results among staff, Sisters, and Residents in order to enter a “No Outbreak Phase.” At that point, DC Health will give us clearance to resume communal dining and group activities. The Residents had their first follow-up test on Friday, June 8. All test results were negative.
- All Residents are being monitored for signs and symptoms every 4 hours.
- All staff are monitoring their signs and symptoms 3x each shift.
- All staff on the nursing units are wearing N95 respirators and face shields, gowns and gloves when caring for the positive and quarantined Residents.
- We are open for visitation in the Residents’ room *only* for those who are negative for COVID. We recommend that you monitor your symptoms after your visit here for 14 days. Please let us know if you develop any symptoms and/or seek medical help from your doctor if necessary.
- We are in constant and close collaboration with the DC Health Epidemiology team daily for guidance regarding this current outbreak.

Thank you for your continued understanding and assistance in keeping our Jeanne Jugan community safe by following our screening protocol when entering our Home. Praise God with me as I see firsthand the dedicated staff who are working tirelessly to bring peace and comfort to our Residents during this situation. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Daisy Alzate, DON or Sister Alphonse Marie, Administrator. We will keep you posted on our status and updates.

God bless you and stay safe while enjoying the summer.

Mother Margaret Regina