

September 25, 2023

Dear Family and Friends,

We have fluctuated between “Outbreak Phase” and “No Outbreak Phase” since our last letter due to some isolated cases of COVID-19 amongst our staff. As you may recall, we were mask free for a few weeks while in the “No Outbreak Phase,” enjoying the last days of summer.

Unfortunately, this update letter is to inform you that we are once again in “Outbreak Phase.” COVID-19 has affected some Residents on the nursing units and one Resident on the 2nd floor. Several staff members have tested positive and all are in isolation. Most are asymptomatic, but we do know this is highly transmissible. As a result, we have reinstated the mask mandate to all staff, visitors, volunteers, and contractors. In addition, all direct caregivers and staff must wear full PPE while attending to the Residents who have COVID at this time.

Furthermore, during these “outbreak phases”, we are following a new set of protocols from the DOH Epidemiology Team, who have it at heart to maintain a level of normalcy, especially for those Residents whose tests remain negative. All Residents, staff, and Sisters were initially tested as a baseline, then again every two days. Residents with negative results on testing days may circulate and participate in limited communal dining, group activities, and chapel services. We are monitoring the Residents every shift and remain to be very vigilant to their signs and symptoms. We are grateful for the ongoing support and guidance of the DOH Epidemiology Team, including site visits.

Due to our heightened caution in our comings and goings, we respectfully ask our visitors to keep wearing a face mask, even while visiting in the Resident’s room. We are encouraging everyone to follow proper hand hygiene by use of the mounted hand sanitizers throughout the building and other source control procedures during your time within our Home. We appreciate your understanding and assistance in helping us keep the Residents safe.

We would be grateful if you are able to assist us with the following: a supply of “C” and “D” batteries for our touchless hand sanitizer dispensers, boxes of Kleenex and bottled water.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Daisy Alzate, DON or Sister Alphonse Marie, Administrator at (202) 269-1831.

Thank you and God bless you.

Mother Margaret Regina