



WEEKLY UPDATE

September 9, 2020

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our weekly update regarding the status of COVID-19 in our facility. Since the onset of this virus, we have had one (1) resident and four (4) staff members test positive for COVID-19. The first two staff members contracted the virus outside of the facility during the 4th of July holiday; both have returned to work.

September 2, 2020 CMS is mandated staff testing based on specific triggering criteria. One of the testing triggers is based on the County COVID-19 activity positivity rate. As of today, Van Zandt County has positivity rate of 12.2% which means we are required to test staff twice a week until the rate in the community decreases.

Our first test was September 4th and all employees were negative. For the second round of testing on September 8th, another staff member tested positive without signs or symptoms of illness. We reported the positive cases to the Texas Health and Human Services and notified families that we would be testing all residents. In the course of testing residents, one resident tested positive. As a result, the Director of Nursing implemented our facility COVID Response Plan; the positive resident (who also has no signs or symptoms) was moved to Hall 100, which is a designated COVID-19 hall; no other residents are in the hall with the positive resident. Per CMS guidelines, we will be implementing resident testing once a week until we have 14 days without new positive results.

As always, we are working hard to keep everyone in our community safe and we will continue to practice the enhanced safety precautions that are known to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as only essential personnel are allowed inside the facility and we screen them for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering. Our residents are continually monitored and staff is using PPE as recommended by the CDC. Staff is frequently reminded and encouraged to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

Please continue to check our website for weekly updates as well as notification of new cases. As always, we will notify you if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at 925-567-0444.

Sincerely

Terrie Harrison

Terrie Harrison
Administrator

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