

August 25, 2020



Dear McLean Patients, Residents and Families,

We hope you are well as we send you our weekly communication, with an update on the health and safety of our campus.

As you know, testing plays a critical role in keeping our campus COVID-19 free. We are continuing mandated, weekly surveillance testing of nursing home staff and residents, as well as Assisted Living, Home Care and Hospice staff, as directed by CT DPH, until further notice. As of today, we are pleased to report that we have seen negative results from all resident and staff testing for the past several weeks. Be assured, we will report any positive COVID-19 results to you.

In light of the lower prevalence of the COVID-19 virus in the community, and with our on-going data of negative staff and skilled resident testing, we will implement new routines that include selectively sharing staff across neighborhoods. These shared neighborhoods are called “pods.” We know that familiarity provides comfort to our residents, so we will be maintaining consistent schedules so your loved one will benefit from the reassurance of continuity and contentment. In the event of any positive test result, we have a solid plan in place to quickly implement our previous cohorting and quarantining strategies to immediately and effectively secure our neighborhoods and protect our residents.

As we are finding new and thoughtful ways to enhance interactions among residents and staff within our building, we are faced with the on-going challenge over when and how to revise our visitor’s policy and welcome guests back on site. We would love nothing more than to have our health center and campus buzzing with excited guests and loving family members. However, we stand with you as we all wait for further guidance from CT DPH on the very best way to expand our current policy. While we hear of some communities relaxing their rules, we know that our partnership with our local health agencies and our strict adherence to their recommended guidelines help us keep our entire campus healthy and safe. In the meantime, we are happy to offer outside or window visits. Kathy Cookson remains the point person for all scheduled visits and FaceTime requests. Kathy can be reached at 860-658-3725 or Kathy.Cookson@McLeancare.org.

We truly appreciate your cooperation and support as we continue to navigate this uncharted territory.

For those who attended last week's joint Family Council meeting, you heard Lisa comment on our need to be fully prepared as we potentially face a resurgence of positive COVID-19 cases in our community and possibly on our campus. Being fully prepared to care for our most vulnerable population during a pandemic is no small feat. This virus has impacted our organization in ways we never could have imagined, both in practices and expenses. We are confident in our staff education and training on best-practices to effectively care for your loved one during this pandemic. But that's not all. We are being overly precautious as we proactively stockpile necessary PPE in order to protect both residents and staff in the event of an outbreak. This type of emergency preparedness for this extraordinary time has resulted in extraordinary expenses. We have spent the past few months carefully researching legitimate and appropriate vendors, while maintaining a close budget. While things seem quiet for us now, and we are adjusting to our new "normal," just as this pandemic quickly turned our world upside down six months ago, we know it can do it again. We will be ready.

Our mitigating strategies and cumulative data are outlined on page 3 of this communication.

Be well,



David Bordonaro
President



Lisa Clark
Vice President, Administrator of the Health Center

Mitigating Strategies

Our staff remains vigilant in appropriate screening, PPE usage and hand hygiene. Our mitigating strategies continue to be in effect. You will find these listed below:

- Visitors are restricted in the building beyond the health screening table except at end-of-life care.
- Scheduled outside family visits are allowed with four guests that are screened at our door and visit by the circle. Masks, hand hygiene and social distancing are required. Window visits, Skype or FaceTime visits continue to be offered by appointment. No food/drinks are allowed during visits.
- Dining is limited to small groups of residents in dining rooms or areas on their own neighborhoods that allow for appropriate social distances.
- A health screening process is in place at our entrance for all essential personnel entering the building.
- The Salon and Barber Shop continue to be closed.
- Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) is available and worn by all staff while on campus.
- Enhanced cleaning process with approved products used and increased focus on touched surfaces.
- Masks are provided to all residents to wear when out of their room or if engaged with their care team (with the exception of face care, taking medications or eating).
- Regular audits are conducted by the CT Department of Public Health, National Guard and CDC to survey our infection control practices.
- Medical appointments via telemedicine are encouraged whenever possible.
- COVID-19 weekly testing of staff follows the Governor's executive orders and we are currently working with state assigned partners. We will isolate any resident with a positive test result and implement additional testing and cohorting strategies.

Cumulative Date as of 8/25/2020

Positive cases are noted based on resident's home neighborhood.

- Assisted Living – 9 positive residents to-date, with last positive case identified 5/6/20
- Robinson has had 1 positive (1 recovered)
- Atwater has had 1 positive (1 recovered)
- Abernethy has had 7 positives (5 recovered), 2 resident deaths (1 death at another facility)
- Skilled Nursing Home – 24 positive residents to-date, with our last positive case identified 4/24/20
- Evergreen Way (post-acute) has had 6 positives (5 recovered), 1 death at another facility
- Chapel Crossing has had 1 positive (1 recovered)
- Skyview Terrace has had 17 positives (14 recovered), 3 resident deaths
- Campus Employees – 25 positive employees (25 recovered) with last positive case reported 7/20/20