



February 2, 2021

Dear Residents, Patients and Families,

We hope you are all well as we send our weekly update on the health and safety of our campus.

We are currently COVID-19 free with NO new cases to report, which is wonderful news. Our last reported case was a staff member who received a positive COVID-19 test result on Friday. This team member had no resident or patient contact and continues to recover at home.

While this is certainly good news for our community, we recognize that any outbreak threatens the health and safety of all, and we all must remain committed to our safety protocols to keep everyone healthy.

Part of our safety protocols and one of our most important defenses against this virus is the vaccine. Our last formal vaccine clinic is scheduled for this Saturday and once completed, we are hoping to surpass our goal of 80% of staff vaccinated.

Anyone who has questions on our vaccination efforts, or who would like to learn more about how we are working hard to effectively and safely distribute the vaccine to our residents and staff, please contact Vickie Dirienzo at 860-658-3702 or [vickie.dirienzo@mcleancare.org](mailto:vickie.dirienzo@mcleancare.org).

There is more good news from our surrounding area. The reported positivity rate in Hartford County is now below 10%. While we are still bound by state regulations, we are able to reduce testing of skilled nursing staff from twice weekly to once a week. If the county positivity rate remains below 10% and we have two full weeks of negative test results, we will begin to lift some of our restrictions and begin small group activities, including dining, in our health center. We will also be able to resume scheduled indoor visits – This is welcome news for our residents and staff alike.

To help streamline the scheduling process, we are delighted to offer you a new online system to book appointments for in-person visits, as well as FaceTime visits. This new system will

be available the morning of February 5<sup>th</sup>, with an anticipated re-opening date of February 8<sup>th</sup> (pending all test results are in and all are negative).

Please follow these simple steps to book your visit online:

- Click on this Link: <https://mcleancare.simplybook.me/v2>.
- This will direct you to the McLean Healthcare page of SimplyBookMe!
- Click on “Book Now” and then on the specific neighborhood.
- Indicate the type of visit you want from the choices presented.
- Click on the available time that works for you.

During your first visit to this site, you will be asked to create an account with a password. After you have selected a time, you will receive a confirmation email. Should your requested time be unavailable, we will reach out to you with other options.

We ask that families limit their request to “one type” of request weekly, allowing for as many families as possible to schedule visits. If you prefer to continue booking a time with Kathy Cookson directly, please call her at 860-658-3725.

Compassionate care visits are still booked through Kathy, once approved by the medical team. Thank you for your patience as we navigate this new system. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Kathy.

As we prepare to resume indoor visits, please remember all visitors must wear masks and be screened at the front entrance of our Health Center. Please bring your driver’s license or photo ID. Also, please do not visit if you are not feeling well and be sure to abide by all travel guidelines, found here: <https://portal.ct.gov/coronavirus/travel>

Thank you for sending along Valentine’s Day greeting cards to share with our residents. Please remember if you’re planning to send cards or gifts for the holiday, that all packages are held for three days before reaching your loved one.

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:

- Vaccine being offered to all staff and residents.
- Outside and inside visits have been suspended. End of life and compassionate care visits are being scheduled with physician approval.
- Small group activities, including dining, have been suspended for all neighborhoods.
- A health screening process is in place at our entrance for all essential personnel entering the building and for those who have scheduled visits.
- The Beauty Salon / Barber Shop is temporarily closed.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is available and worn by all staff while on campus.
- Enhanced cleaning process with approved products used and an increased focus on touched surfaces remains top priority.
- 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. Internal campaigns and audits have been implemented to reinforce consistent and effective preventative measures.
- Medical appointments via telemedicine are encouraged whenever possible.
- COVID-19 testing of staff follows the Governor’s executive orders and we are currently working with state assigned partners. Skilled nursing staff will test two times each week per CMS recommendations. We have isolated any resident with a positive test result and implemented additional testing and cohorting strategies.

Cumulative data below is from March 2020 to February 2, 2021.  
Positive cases are noted based on a resident’s home neighborhood.

|                            | Positive | Last positive case reported on: | Recovered | Deaths                  |
|----------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| <b>Assisted Living</b>     |          |                                 |           |                         |
| Robinson                   | 1        |                                 | 1         |                         |
| Atwater                    | 1        |                                 | 1         |                         |
| Abernethy                  | 16       | 1/13/21                         | 13        | 2 (1 at other facility) |
| Total for Assisted Living  | 18       | 1/13/21                         | 15        |                         |
|                            |          |                                 |           |                         |
| <b>Skilled Nursing</b>     |          |                                 |           |                         |
| Evergreen Way (post-acute) | 13       | 1/6/21                          | 12        | 1 (other facility)      |
| Chapel Crossing            | 2        | 1/14/21                         | 2         |                         |
| Skyview Terrace            | 21       | 1/4/21                          | 16        | 5                       |
| Total for Skilled Nursing  | 36       | 1/4/21                          | 30        |                         |
|                            |          |                                 |           |                         |
| <b>Employees</b>           | 43       | 1/29/21                         | 42        |                         |