

December 29, 2020



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.

Currently, we are caring for two COVID-19 positive patients in an isolated section of our Evergreen Way neighborhood. Yesterday, we learned of a staff member who received a COVID-19 positive test result as part of our ongoing surveillance testing. Contact tracing has been completed and anyone who was potentially exposed has already been notified by our care team. Through our contact tracing, we are learning that our mitigating strategies, including strict adherence to proper use of recommended PPE, is helping to minimize the possibility of spread. We are grateful for everyone's dedication to protecting our beloved community.

Our mitigating strategies, found below, currently incorporate enhanced infection control measures. With the new positive staff test result, our additional protective actions will remain in effect until January 18, 2021, providing all results are in and are negative at that time.

While all indoor/outdoor visits remain suspended, our team is looking for creative ways for families to connect with their loved ones. Our care teams and Life Enrichment staff are working every day to engage residents in meaningful and fulfilling ways to help alleviate stress and offer comfort during this time of social distancing. Compassionate care and end of life visits are still being held, as well as virtual or Zoom visits. Please contact Kathy Cookson at (860) 658-3725 or Kathy.Cookson@McLeancare.org to schedule.

As the positivity rate in Hartford County continues to hover just over 10%, and we are still celebrating the holiday season, we would like to remind everyone of the CT travel restrictions. If you are traveling out-of-state, we encourage you to review the Governor's guidance before returning, found [here](#). Domestic travel recommendations can be found on the CDC website by clicking [here](#). Please know that we are sharing all safe travel procedures with our staff and are strictly enforcing all recommended testing and quarantining policies before returning to work.

Our first COVID-19 vaccine clinic will be held on January 6 for skilled nursing residents and staff. While we cannot confirm at this time, we continue to work with our pharmacy partner to include Assisted Living residents and staff in the January 6 clinic, as well as additional vaccine clinic dates. We are hoping to have confirmation by early next week. We are currently compiling all consent forms and insurance information for everyone who indicated their interest in receiving the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine through McLean. If you've submitted paperwork, you will receive an email from Vickie Dirienzo next week, prior to the clinic. If you have any questions, please contact Vickie directly at vickie.dirienzo@mcleancare.org or 860-658-3702.

While news of the upcoming vaccine is encouraging, please remember that we will still be required to follow all guidance put forth from our local health agencies regarding lifting any health and safety measures. We are all looking forward to things returning to "normal" but we do anticipate that any changes to restrictions may take some time. We appreciate your support as we work through the vaccination process and await additional guidance from our health partners.

We are ending this communication with a message of hope for the New Year. Looking back over 2020, we take comfort in knowing that we all worked tirelessly together to protect ourselves and our residents from the invisible enemy. We strengthened our bond as a community to remain "McLean Strong" and although the pandemic touched our community, we look forward to 2021 with hopeful optimism and anticipation. As we prepare to ring in the New Year, we encourage you to reflect on our journey over the past several months and join us in looking forward to brighter days ahead.

Wishing you a very Happy New Year,



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:

- 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 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 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 as of 12/29/2020

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

Assisted Living – 10 positive residents to-date (8 recovered), with last positive case identified 11/14/20

- Robinson has had 1 positive (1 recovered)
- Atwater has had 1 positive (1 recovered)
- Abernethy has had 8 positives (6 recovered), 2 resident deaths (1 death at another facility)

Skilled Nursing Home – 27 positive residents to-date (21 recovered), with our last positive case identified 12/18/20

- Evergreen Way (post-acute) has had 7 positives (5 recovered), 1 death at another facility
- Chapel Crossing has had 1 positive (1 recovered)
- Skyview Terrace has had 19 positives (15 recovered), 4 resident deaths

Campus Employees – 34 positive employees (33 recovered) with our last person tested on 12/27/20 and reported positive on 12/29/20