

February 23, 2021



Dear Residents, Patients and Families,

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

Since we sent you our unscheduled update on Friday, February 19 regarding four assisted living residents who received positive COVID-19 test results, those residents have since tested negative in two additional PCR tests. We'd like to share additional details on the exceptional circumstances that led to the double testing of these residents and the subsequent negative results of both sets of tests.

These positive test results came from testing done the week of February 8. While waiting for the lab results, we proactively administered antigen testing, and those results came back negative on February 16. When we finally did receive the positive results on Wednesday, February 17, after an extensive and very unusual delay, we questioned the accuracy of the results and immediately ordered the first of two PCR tests per CDC guidelines. When the series of PCR tests came back negative, we believe the first test results for these four residents from the February 8 testing cycle were false positive. Our cumulative data reflects this change.

This is certainly an unusual series of events and if we've learned anything over the past year, it's that nothing is typical and we move forward making the very best decisions based on the information we have at the time. We are relieved with the negative test results and have communicated with these residents and their families.

We remain in outbreak status due to our one positive employee who is isolating at home. Currently there are no COVID-19 cases in the Health Center. Our mitigating strategies, found below, will remain in effect until all test results are in and all are negative for two full weeks.

As indicated by our mitigating strategies currently in place, **we are only booking virtual visits**. You can schedule your virtual visit online by following the steps below:

- 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.
- Select "**virtual visit**" from the choices presented.
- Click on the available time that works for you.

If this is 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. Please limit your request to one visit request weekly, to allow as many family visits as possible.

Thank you for your patience as we work to streamline our process for scheduling time with your loved one. Please contact Kathy Cookson with any questions or concerns regarding this online scheduling system. Kathy is also available if you prefer to book your visit through her directly, or you wish to schedule a compassionate care visit after receiving physician approval. Kathy can be reached directly at kathy.cookson@mcleancare.org or 860-658-3725.

As we are approaching the one year mark of this pandemic, as a community, we would like to acknowledge and appreciate all of the hard work that has gone into caring and protecting our community. We also want to honor those we've lost to the virus and remember them and their families as we forge a path forward.

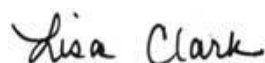
Throughout the month of March, there will be several events that will help us commemorate this time for our residents, staff and families – and we'd like your help! During March, we will be collecting Luminaria Bags. On each bag we're inviting our community members to write a message to share. We're asking you, our families, to send us your message to write on one of the Luminaria bags. Your sentiment could be what you are thankful for, or what has made you strong, or what have you learned, or lost, or have missed. Every heartfelt sentiment is appreciated! Our Life Enrichment staff will be working with our residents to write messages on the bags as well. At the end of the month, we will designate an evening to light up the night and remember our year. Please send your message to Carlene Rhea at Carlene.Rhea@McLeancare.org and we will create your Luminaria for you. Thank you so much.

With hearts full of gratitude, love and loss, we have so much to be thankful for as we look back on a troubling year. We are grateful that we are traveling this journey together and thank you for your continued support as we approach a new season.

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 is being offered to all staff and residents.
- Inside visits have been suspended. End of life and compassionate care visits are being scheduled with physician approval.
- Small group activities, including small group dining, have been suspended.
- The Beauty Salon / Barber Shop are temporarily closed.
- A health screening process is in place at our entrance for all essential personnel entering the building and for those who have scheduled visits.
- 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. All staff will test once weekly per CMS recommendations. We will follow isolating protocols should any resident receive a positive test result and implement additional testing and cohorting strategies.

Cumulative data below is from March 2020 to February 23, 2021.

Positive cases are noted based on a resident’s home neighborhood.

* confirmed negative with two negative test results

	Positive	Last positive case reported on:	Recovered	Deaths
Assisted Living				
Robinson	1*		1	
Atwater	1*		1	
Abernethy	16	1/13/21	13	2 (1 at other facility)
Total for Assisted Living	18*		15	
Skilled Nursing				
Evergreen Way (post-acute)	13	1/6/21	11	2 (1 at other facility)
Chapel Crossing	2	1/14/21	2	
Skyview Terrace	21	1/4/21	16	5
Total for Skilled Nursing	36		29	
Employees	44	2/18/21	43	