

July 4th, 2020

To Health Care Center Residents and Family Members:

Good Morning and Happy Independence Day!

In the few days of July, Arizona continues to have the numbers for positive cases of COVID-19 continue to increase rapidly in Maricopa County, across the State of Arizona and across the country. There are many presumed reasons for this as restrictions were lifted, large gatherings were happening, people did not follow mask-wearing recommendations. Arizona, as well as many states, has rolled back the state's reopening and announced new closures in attempt to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

This is the latest update in the Health Care Center: We have received all of the testing of the Vermillion Cliff's residents. With that came one additional positive resident test where the individual is asymptomatic or not showing any symptoms of COVID-19. The resident was moved to the Isolation Unit upon receiving results. We currently have 11 residents in the unit and I am pleased to report they are all doing very well! I reviewed each of their charts this morning and was encouraged. The dedicated staff have done an amazing job caring for your loved ones during this most difficult time.

As stated in the previous email our Medical Director Dr. Deepa Dhmarajan stated that these individuals are likely at the end of the disease process. Once they have completed the 14-day Isolation period they will return to their unit and familiar surroundings. We have had two residents already "Graduate" from the unit and the staff celebrate these occasions with them.

We had another round of Mandatory Staff testing this past Wednesday and received a handful of the over 225 tests performed. In that first batch returned we did have a Vermillion Cliffs employee who tested positive. She was notified immediately and will be off the schedule per DHS guidelines. We will keep you all updated on those results as we receive them. In addition, the Sierra Springs residents were tested on Wednesday but no results have come back yet.

We continue to work closely with the county public health department, the state Department of Health Services, CDC and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS), are following all guidance, and updated recommendations.

Please be safe, stay healthy, and wear your mask if you are going to be out in public places, stay hydrated as it is going to be a hot weekend. We are in this together and appreciate your support. We are Beatitudes Strong!

Blessings;

Teresa