

October 25, 2021

To Our Residents and Family Members:

Good Morning,

We hope this communication finds you all well. We are reaching out today to inform you that, during our weekly COVID-19 testing for our vaccinated staff, we unfortunately had a positive result with a direct care employee who works in the Health Care Center. This individual worked their last scheduled shift on Thursday, October 21. Once the positive result was confirmed, the employee was instructed to immediately leave the campus and have a PCR test done.

With the community positivity still above 10% percent, we have been implementing the use of both facemasks and shields for the past couple months. We will now add the use of gowns to our PPE protocol. All the residents in the Health Care Center have been tested and all negative results for COVID-19. We will test again on Thursday, October 28, or sooner if we observe any symptoms. The positive result has also been reported to the Maricopa County Public Health Department per protocol.

The employee has been removed from the schedule and will follow the quarantine period per Arizona Department of Health Services protocol. We are conducting contact tracing. Our Human Resources Department will have regular contact with the staff member who tested positive, document any symptoms that may present during the quarantine period, and assure that they are free of any symptoms before they are cleared to return to work.

At this time, family visits will be suspended except those at end of life. We hope to be able to resume visits later in the week pending testing outcomes. We appreciate your understanding with this.

We continue to follow Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services guidelines for infection prevention, hand washing, proper use of personal protective equipment, continued education for all staff, and guidance on how to protect themselves and each other when not at work and out in public settings. Screening of residents and staff continues.

As always, we appreciate your continued support through this uncharted territory we are traveling.

Blessings,

Teresa Borton, RN, Administrator/Director of Nursing  
Matt Brogen, RN, Nurse Manger  
Cheryl Knupp, Senior VP of Health Services & Human Resources