



Advancing the Art of Living.

November 19, 2020

Dear Family Member,

We continue to hear more and more about community spread of COVID-19 and our vigilance continues and has increased. All staff who have contact with elders are wearing N-95 masks and we are in the midst, right now, of having those N-95's fit tested, which is important to make sure they fit well. Other PPE, including gowns and goggles, are also being used as appropriate. We know that proper PPE matters and we continue to stress its importance.

We also continue with our regular testing. This week we did have two employees who tested positive, one at Jewish Home Assisted Living and one who works for Jewish Home@Home. Both of these individuals are asymptomatic and we have completed contact tracing for each of them. Anyone who was in contact with these staff members has been notified and has had a rapid COVID test administered. Those test results have all been negative.

We have also had some new requirements that came from the New Jersey Department of Health yesterday. We had a webinar today to get some of our questions answered but we do not, at this moment, have all the answers. Here is what we do know: For two weeks, beginning Monday, November 23, we are required to expand our testing on both campuses as follows:

- All staff are required to be tested with a rapid test every other day. Any staff member who refuses will face termination.
- Anyone who is going inside the building, who is not staff, must have a rapid test. That includes physicians, lab providers, other professionals etc. It also includes any family member who is coming in for an Essential Caregiver or compassionate care visit. Essential Caregivers will be contacted prior to their scheduled visit with more information including the forms that must be filled out prior to the testing. There are demographic and personal questions that must be answered. Others will receive the forms when they arrive at the building.
- When a non-staff member arrives at either building, they will be screened as they

have been (temperature and health questions) and then directed to a testing area adjacent to the front door. The rapid test will be administered and the person will be directed to wait either outside or in their cars until the results are available, generally about 15 minutes. At that time, they will be called and notified of their results. Of course no one may enter that has a positive result.

- Any elder who leaves the building for any reason must have a rapid test upon their return.
- The Department of Health has a specific rapid test they would prefer that we use. It is not the rapid test system that was issued to us by the State. We have been told that the Department of Health has enough of the preferred testing for all of the facilities in the State for two weeks and that those will be distributed beginning Monday. As a result, we will not implement this program in its entirety until the supplies arrive.
- There has not been a decision as to what happens after the two weeks. That is up to the Department of Health.
- The testing requirement does not apply to outdoor or window visits.
- Please remember, as we indicated in last week's letter, that anyone who leaves for a holiday visit will be required to be quarantined for 14 days upon their return. That also means that they will not be allowed any indoor or outdoor visits during that time.

As always, we appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we navigate through these challenging circumstances. Our primary objective is to keep our elders and staff safe. That means PPE, infection control, cleaning and sanitizing and handwashing. It also means constant requests that our staff avoid social gatherings, maintain social distance and wear facemasks. We hope that you do the same, there is light at the end of the tunnel with the news about vaccines and that has to help us to stay stronger and more focused.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions and be sure to visit our website and review the materials under the [COVID-19 tab](#) for more information.

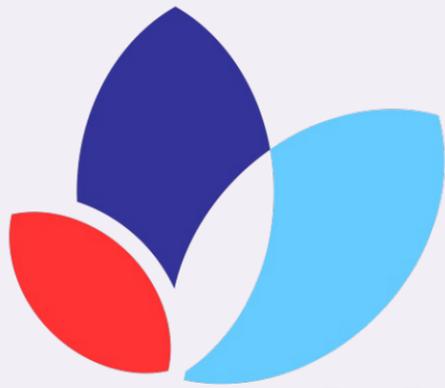
Be well,



Carol Silver Elliott
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The Jewish Home Family

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