



*Advancing the Art of Living.*

November 29, 2020

Dear Family Member,

Keeping you informed continues to be a priority for us. We do have some updates on COVID-19 at the Jewish Home Family. At this time, we have 20 elders at the Jewish Home at Rockleigh who have tested positive for COVID. Of those 20, 17 are asymptomatic and three have minor symptoms and are stable. We have one elder at Jewish Home Assisted Living who has also tested positive and is asymptomatic. In all cases, these elders are in isolation with full precautions in place. Elders and family members have been notified and contact tracing is either complete or underway based upon when results were received. We have no new staff positive results on either campus. For the time being, visiting on both campuses continues to be virtual visits and window visits. The only indoor visits are compassionate care for end of life. We know that this is difficult and will reopen visiting as soon as we believe that we can do so safely.

We have finally received the BINAX rapid test kits that the Department of Health has asked us to use and will begin a two-week trial with these tests beginning tomorrow. All elders will be tested tomorrow as will all staff and we will continue with staff on an every other day basis for the two-week pilot period. We are not certain what the requirement will be going forward but would suspect that we will be doing testing more frequently than once a week, which we have been doing since May. The change in the scheduling frequency is due to the availability, and accuracy rating, of these new rapid tests. Prior to this, we were able to only use the PCR testing which had to be sent to a lab for processing, resulting in results being available 48-72 hours later, sometimes longer based on lab volume. The initial rapid test equipment that was provided to the Jewish Home at Rockleigh was neither as accurate nor as rapid as the BINAX system. This new system should help all of us to know immediately if someone is positive and help us to identify cases, especially those who are asymptomatic, more effectively and efficiently.

We continue to focus on infection control, proper use of PPE, hand washing as well as cleaning and sanitizing. We continue to remind our staff to be vigilant in their personal lives and we hope that you are doing the same. Social distancing, wearing facemasks and thorough and frequent hand washing are vital.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions. You can also find all of our

outbreak plans, previous family letters and other material under the [COVID-19 tab](#) on the Jewish Home Family website.

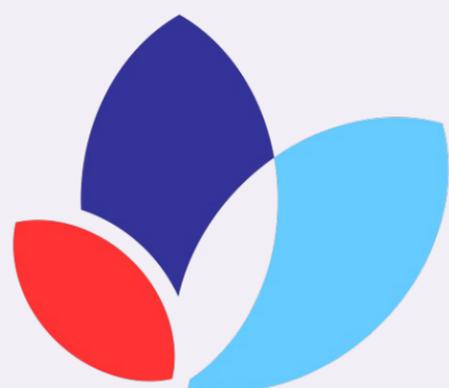
Be well,



**Carol Silver Elliott**  
President and CEO  
The Jewish Home Family



**Dr. Harvey Gross**  
Medical Director  
The Jewish Home Family



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