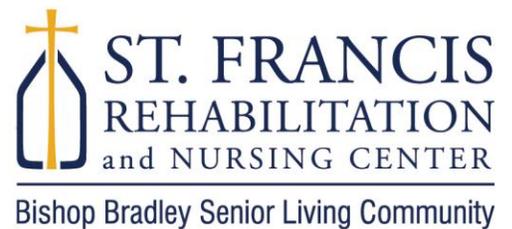


St. Francis Rehabilitation and Nursing Center
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September 17, 2021

Dear Residents, Tenants, Family Members and Employees,

I am writing to you to give you an update on things that are happening at St. Francis. We completed our third round of testing this week. All of our test results have come back negative and we are waiting on two employee test results to come back. At this point, it is likely that we will not get these test results until Monday as the NH Public Health Lab is not open on the weekends now. If the last two results come back negative then we will be able to open up to visits again. Until we get the last two test results, we have been directed that compassionate care visits may continue but need to be done in a limited way. They cannot be done as a routine. Some examples of why they can be offered are; to help a resident when they are first admitted to help them adjust to their new environment, to be with a resident who is terminally ill and close to the end of life, to console a resident who shows signs of depression or anxiety. Please continue to call Diane at ext. 300 to schedule your visits and keep in mind the guidelines that we have. You may also reach us to schedule window visits or electronic visits. Brandy can help with this at ext. 313 or Alex at ext. 338. We will continue to wear N95 masks and face shields. Based on test results they will give us further guidance on how to proceed. It is our hope that we will be able to open to visits starting on Monday, September 20 as long as we do not have any more positive covid 19 tests. We will keep you updated with any changes that happen. Please look for correspondence from me at the beginning of the week with an update.

I also wanted to let you know that effective September 13, 2021 all employees have had at least their first dose of the vaccine and they will be required to be fully vaccinated by October 25, 2021. The only exception to this is if they have been approved for a religious or medical exemption through Catholic Charities NH.

I have had several ask me questions about the vaccine booster. At this time, I do not have much information to relay about the booster but I am sure I will in the coming weeks and I will keep you informed as I learn more about it and when we might offer it to our residents and employees.

I also wanted to let you know that we celebrated our Environmental Services team this week and held a special luncheon for them today. We have a wonderful group of hardworking professionals on our team who take great pride in their work and the safety and cleanliness of our building. We are fortunate to have them. Please see our face book page and I encourage you to write a comment of praise and encouragement for them.

The positivity rate of Covid 19 is going up in our county. Belknap County is considered in substantial transmission. I would like to encourage you all to wear masks when you are in a public setting. This applies even to vaccinated people due to the different variants that are being discovered.

While we know this is an incredibly challenging time for you and your family, please be assured that we remain committed to the care and support of your loved one here at St. Francis. Their safety, health and well-being remain our firm commitment.

We will continue to keep you updated as time goes on.

God bless,

Brenda Buttrick RN, LNHA
Administrator