

May 9, 2022



Dear Residents, Tenants, Family Members and Employees,

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I wanted to send you an update on how things are going here at St. Francis. We have completed another round of testing and we have two additional residents who have tested positive for covid 19. We also have 2 additional employees who have tested positive over the past couple of days. At this point we have three employees who testing positive, 4 residents who tested positive and 1 tenant who tested positive. All of them are having mild symptoms and recovering well. We have been in contact with the NH Public Health Department and Catholic Charities. Both have recommended that we do two more rounds of facility wide testing for all of our employees and residents. We will be testing again this coming Thursday and the following Monday. We will keep you informed on the results of the testing. We are using rapid antigen tests, Binax cards for our testing and then alternating with PCR Covid testing on the next testing cycle. According to public health we are now considered in an outbreak status at this time. Dr. Ephrem has been prescribing Paxlovid which is an antiviral covid 19 vaccine that is taken orally for 5 days for residents who are testing positive.

Visitation guidelines remain the same. We are not restricting visitors. We have closed down to community dining and community activities for now as we do more testing to see if we have any others test positive. We have decided to postpone most of our activities in celebration of nursing home week. We will be planning for these activities at a later date.

Employees are currently wearing N95 masks and protective eye wear. Visitors are being asked to wear masks and eye wear also. The percent positivity rate is 10.71% and the case rate per 100,000 is 290 in Belknap County. These rates are going up. 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