

May 20, 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 had one additional resident who have tested positive for covid 19. We also had 2 employees who have tested positive over this past week. At this point we have 7 employees who have tested positive, 5 residents who tested positive and 3 tenants who tested positive. All of them are having mild symptoms and recovering well. We have only one resident who is presently on quarantine. 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 Monday and the following Thursday. 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 continue in an outbreak status at this time. Dr. Ephrem has been prescribing Paxlovid which is an antiviral covid 19 medication that is taken orally for 5 days for most 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.

Thank you to those who were able to join us on zoom this week for updates. We appreciate your participation and kind words. We will plan to do this at least every other month or more often if needed.

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 15.37% and the case rate per 100,000 is 311 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