

September 12, 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. Today we had one employee from the Environmental Services Department test positive for Covid 19. This person did not have any contact with the resident and the other employee that tested positive for Covid 19 this past Saturday, September 10, 2022. We have talked with NH Public Health and at this point St. Francis is not considered in and outbreak status. The employees are staying out of work for the quarantine period and the resident is currently on isolation precautions for a total of 10 days from testing positive. We have tested all of the other residents on the Birch Wing as well as the staff that are currently working and all of those tests are negative. As a precaution we have closed down to community dining and activities. At that point we will do further testing and see if we have any additional positives. We continue to monitor for any symptoms of covid among all of our residents, tenants and employees. We will let you know the results of those tests. Per CMS and NH Public Health guidelines we are continuing to test all employees twice weekly who are not fully up to date with their vaccines. This means any employee who has not received a booster and any employee over the age of 50 who has not received two boosters and are eligible to do so per the guidelines. We are using the rapid antigen binax cards for our testing. We are currently using N95 masks for the Birch Wing and surgical masks for the rest of the facility except for those who are not fully up to date with the vaccines. They are required to wear N95 masks. We are also wearing eye wear when we are near residents.

Visitation guidelines remain the same. We are not restricting visitors. Visitors are to wear masks and eye wear also. The percent positivity rate is 8.8% and the case rate per 100,000 is 96 in Belknap County. These rates are considered in the substantial category according to the CDC.

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