

URGENT MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 17, 2020

TO: All Bethany Home Association Community Members and Visitors

FROM: Kris Erickson, CEO

RE: COVID-19 Update from Our Community - What It Means for You

Dear Bethany Home Association Residents, Families, Staff, and Community Members,

I am writing to report that during our routine point of care testing, two staff members were identified as COVID positive and were sent for confirmatory testing. We believe these cases to be community acquired. Resident testing has not identified new concerns.

We continue to monitor five residents, one confirmed to be positive for COVID-19, four who are presumed positive based on in-house testing. We now have four staff on leave for presumed positive COVID-19, and we have four additional staff who are undergoing precautionary quarantine for exposure to COVID-19. We thank you for keeping us in your prayers and for the kind words of encouragement you have shared as we continue to battle this virus.

If you or your loved one has been affected, you will be contacted directly. We understand you may have concerns and we ask for your patience and understanding as we work through our existing response protocols.

To minimize the risk of potential spread, we are now isolating each neighborhood within Bethany Home and minimizing unnecessary staff movement between neighborhoods. Residents with a positive diagnosis or potential exposure to someone with COVID-19 are being asked to undergo in-room quarantine precautions. We are also suspending visits at our visitation area, but our large screen video calling, Zoom, and tele-visits are available to family and loved ones. Closed window visits are still permitted. As we address this emerging situation, it remains our goal to keep loved ones connected. The positive cases require us to revert to Phase 0 of our Reopening Plan. This means that only staff and essential medical personnel will be allowed in our building. Compassionate Care visits will continue but will require advanced precautionary measures including full Personal Protective Equipment. Staff will assist with these visits. Please contact Sara Anderson or Jema Koehn to make arrangements.

At this time we are following guidance provided by McPherson County Health Department. We are continuing our point of care COVID testing. Individuals identified as suspected positive through in-house antigen testing will be referred for confirmatory PCR testing. County Health and Emergency Management have recommended we provide care for affected residents on-site, and we will have advanced precautions in place. We pray for the health and wellbeing of all affected individuals and ask you to keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

McPherson County Health Department has advised that all unaffected staff should remain at work and follow standard precautionary protocols. We will continue to screen all staff as they arrive at work, wear masks, practice good hand hygiene, and we will be conducting point of care testing of staff as advised under current regulatory guidance.

We also ask you, as community members, to practice safety standards to protect our staff and residents. Our dedicated caregivers rely on each of you to keep them healthy when they are not at work. Together we can overcome this virus, and your assistance in the effort is appreciated.

If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to:

Kris Erickson, CEO	kerickson@bethanyhome.com	785-227-2334 x111
Skylar Hanson, RN- Assisted Living Operator	shanson@bethanyhome.com	785-227-8331
Sara Anderson, RN-Director of Nursing	sanderson@bethanyhome.com	785-227-2334 x159
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Best Wishes,



Kris Erickson, CEO
Bethany Home Association