

May 14, 2020.

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

We want to take this opportunity to let you know that as of today, we have mass tested 98 residents for COVID-19. We had previously tested 54 residents, of which 26 of them have tested positive. There are also 7 staff members that tested positive with COVID-19, of which 3 have met the Worcester Health Department and MD State criteria; have been in isolation and since returned to work. The 4 remaining staff members continue with self-quarantine and are following the Health Department guidelines.

As per Governor Hogan's directive, Berlin has tested all residents and staff and are awaiting the results.

While we are disappointed that we continue to see additional cases of COVID-19 in our facility, we want to assure you that our staff is working tirelessly to keep everyone in our community safe and reduce the number of positive cases in our facility. We are in constant communication with our federal, state and local health officials, including the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and are following all of their recommendations, such as:

- Only essential personnel are permitted inside the facility and they are screened for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering.
- Residents are continually monitored.
- Housekeeping is performing regular deep cleanings of the facility.
- Staff receives education and wears personal protective equipment (PPE) as recommended by the CDC.
- Group activities have been suspended and staff is providing individual activities for residents.
- We are implementing isolation protocols as required.
- We encourage staff to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community.

As a reminder, we will notify you through our website of newly confirmed cases of COVID-19 as well as when three (3) or more residents and/or staff present with new onset respiratory symptoms that occur within seventy-two (72) hours. We will also update you with any new steps we are taking to prevent and reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

Again, please check our website for more updates but if you have any questions about this update please contact us directly at 410.641.4400.

Sincerely,

Angie Gozali
Administrator