

1/21/2022

Dear Residents, Families, and Friends:

We want to inform you that at River Bluff, we have identified confirmed cases of COVID-19 among residents and staff.

The safety of our residents and staff is our top priority. To our residents, if you are diagnosed with COVID-19, we will notify you directly and contact loved ones or a representative with whom you have given us permission to communicate. To reduce the spread and impact of COVID-19, we continue to follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

We are staying in close communication with local and state health officials to ensure we are taking the appropriate steps under the current circumstances, including:

- Enhanced infection control precautions, such as wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) when we care for residents, increasing the availability of hand sanitizer, and more frequent cleaning and disinfecting of high-touch surfaces. Residents may also be moved in the facility to prevent the spread of the virus causing COVID-19.
- Screening residents and staff for COVID-19 symptoms, as well as anyone else who must enter our facility. Only staff and volunteers who must enter the building will be permitted entry.
- Encouraging visitation in our main dining area for residents on effected unit.
- Testing staff and residents for the virus causing COVID-19 based on current protocols and availability of tests.
- Providing and requiring facemasks for all staff to wear.
- Requesting that all others entering the facility to wear surgical face masks or K-N95 masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Altering group activities as needed and helping residents to practice social distancing.
- Requiring that visitors do not visit if they have had a high risk exposure or if they have tested positive, following IDPH guidelines. Please stay home if you are sick and utilize alternative ways to communicate with your loved one.

*Visitors must follow the quarantine and isolation guidance for LTC residents; the shortened CDC time periods for the general public do not apply. This means that a visitor must be in isolation for 10 full days after a positive test, or 14 days of quarantine if a close contact of a COVID-19 positive individual, regardless of vaccination status.*

We encourage you to review the CDC website for information about COVID-19, including its symptoms, how it spreads, and actions you can take to protect your health: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

All of us at River Bluff understand that this is a serious situation and might be frightening. Additional information about coping with stress can be found on the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/managing-stress-anxiety.html>.

We will continue to provide you with regular updates about the situation and will promptly notify you if we identify any additional residents or staff with confirmed COVID-19. We encourage you to contact us with questions and concerns. Please call us at 815-921-9200 email us at [cmanning@wincoil.us](mailto:cmanning@wincoil.us) or visit our website [rbnh.org](http://rbnh.org) for updates.

The safety of our residents and staff is our top priority.

Sincerely,

Pat McDiarmid, LNHA