To Our Addolorata Villa Residents and Family Members:

Thank you for your continued support of the Addolorata Villa and the associates who are working so diligently with the COVID-19 infection prevention strategies. Throughout this crisis, we have kept you informed, as quickly as possible, with every confirmed COVID-19 case that has been diagnosed.

Today, 5/1/20, there have been 2 new skilled nursing residents (from the first floor) that have tested positive for COVID-19. This brings the total count of positive resident cases on the first floor skilled nursing unit to six. There are no positive cases on 2nd floor or anywhere else on campus at this point. Additionally, we have received a positive test result from a dietary associate as well. We would like to take this opportunity to update you and discuss the new and continued measures that are being implemented.

Current Confirmed Case:
First Case: A resident, who was admitted in 2017, and was a first floor, long-term care resident in skilled nursing. On 4/25/2020 the resident began exhibiting symptoms of a dry cough and elevated temperature, at which time, was immediately isolated. On 4/26/2020, the resident was still exhibiting symptoms of a dry cough and elevated temperature and, subsequently, a COVID test was ordered and completed. On 4/28/2020, the resident was exhibiting a cough and runny nose, but the elevated temperature had dissipated and was otherwise stable. On 4/29/2020, the resident was further exhibiting signs of generalized weakness and on 5/01/2020 the tests results were received back and the resident was reported as testing positive. The resident remains at Addolorata Villa in isolation, since the onset of symptoms.

Second Case: On 4/26/20, a long-term care resident in skilled nursing, located on the first floor was exhibiting elevated temperature, chills and scratchy throat, at which time, a chest x-ray and COVID-19 test were ordered and was, subsequently, put into isolation. The chest x-ray was reported as normal on 4/26/2020. On 5/01/2020 the resident was admitted to the emergency department, a stat chest x-ray was ordered which found fluid buildup. The resident was tested for COVID-19, which came back as positive.

Third Case: A full-time dietary associate, who is completely asymptomatic, was tested at another employer on 4/26/2020 has shared that their test result was positive for COVID-19. The associate was at work at Addolorata Villa when the positive results were received and was sent home immediately. The associate has shown no symptoms throughout the period from 4/26/2020 through 5/1/2020, but was using full PPE precautions per our policy during her period of work. Additionally, this associate had zero resident contact on the campus. This associate will remain off work until the appropriate quarantine time has passed and they test negative.

Important to note: Today, IDPH had a team of five infection preventionists in for a survey and AV passed without difficulty and the survey team applauded AV for its policies, practices and efforts in the prevention of spread of the virus. The survey team had come to assist in testing all the associates and residents on first floor skilled nursing, but we continue to wait on the testing supplies to arrive. IDPH has offered to assist with testing everyone once the supplies are received and we are thankful for the assistance. Importantly, a good number of staff have already undergone testing and all were negative with the exception of the one associate that was reported last week.

We continue to have FULL PPE for all staff in the first floor skilled nursing area, meaning masks, face shields, gowns and gloves for all staff on the unit. All cases of COVID-19 appear confined to the first floor nursing unit. I want to assure you that even if we had testing already completed on everyone, the level of isolation protection, at this time, would be no different than we are currently providing. The most important aspect is to monitor everyone and treat for symptoms.

Containment Procedures:
Residents continue to be monitored closely for the earliest signs or symptoms of COVID-19. If any signs or symptoms develop, a resident is immediately isolated. Associates continue to be screened daily under the enhanced screening guidelines when they report for work; if any screening element is noted to be abnormal, the associate is sent home.

Precautionary Measures:
Our Infection Preventionist, along with our Head of Clinical and Infectious Disease Control are widening the visitor screening procedures, adding additional screening items to the list of current symptoms that we have been screening for. The skilled nursing unit has limited access to only staff assigned to that unit with no visitors allowed. Addolorata Villa continues to restrict visitors and monitors those associates and residents, following CDC-regulated standards for infection control and to prevent any spread of the virus. The staff continues to maintain proper PPE recommendations and protocol, as defined by the local and state health departments and the CDC.

We understand that this is a time of anxiety and unknowns for the safety of you or loved ones. 100% of our efforts are geared towards the safety of your loved ones. Should you have any questions, please visit our Addolorata Villa Facebook page or the Franciscan Ministry COVID-19 Web Page - www.franciscanministries.org/coronavirus-response/ for daily updates and information. For additional information, please visit the CDC’s coronavirus disease information page.

The safety of our residents and associates continues to be our most important concern.

Sincerely,

Judy Amiano
President and CEO