



To Our Franciscan Village Residents and Family Members:

This past week we continued with our widespread COVID-19 testing of residents and associates. A total of 349 tests were conducted in the Healthcare center, including residents and staff members. As of today, we received the screening results and have learned that seven new residents and seven new associates have tested positive for the virus.

Importantly, all residents who have tested positive have been moved to the COVID isolation unit. Additionally, all staff members who tested positive are off work and in quarantine. Please be assured that we have also “terminally” cleaned and disinfected the entire unit with electrostatic spraying system that eradicates virus. As per our previous protocols, we will continue to do widespread testing, on a routine basis, on all staff and residents in the healthcare center as we move forward to aide in the identification/mitigation and containment of any virus. We are scheduled to complete another round of 100% testing of all healthcare residents and staff members next week. With the new positive cases, and out of an abundance of caution, we are temporarily suspending new admissions to the Healthcare Center.

### ***Confirmed Resident Cases:***

On 10/1/2020 we received results back from the widespread testing which was conducted on 9/29/20. Seven residents in our Mother Theresa Skilled Nursing tested positive for the virus. All of the residents remain in isolation.

### ***Confirmed Associate Cases:***

Seven associates tested positive for the virus with our widespread testing this week. Five of these associates, in our Mother Theresa Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, were direct care workers. The remaining positive cases were non-direct care associates. Each staff member has been quarantined and may return to work in 10 days per CDC guidelines.

### ***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 when they report for work; if any screening element is noted to be abnormal, the associate is sent home. As a reminder, all associates wear a mask while they are working to minimize any potential spread of the virus.

### ***Precautionary Measures:***

Due to the current outbreak at the Mother Theresa Home, the skilled nursing will remain on strict restriction for any outside visitors in the Healthcare Center only and will temporarily hold admissions until at least 10/9/20. We will continue to monitor the suggested guidelines of Cook County and notify you as soon as this restriction can be lifted. Please note this restriction ONLY applies to the Mother Theresa Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Once this restriction is lifted, you will receive further communication of the COVID-19 status of the community. Additionally, the staff continues to maintain proper PPE recommendations and protocol, as defined by the local and state health departments and the CDC. We will also continue to test all associates and residents

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for the COVID-19 virus on an ongoing basis.

Franciscan Village continues to monitor 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 your loved ones. 100% of our efforts are geared towards the safety of your loved ones. Should you have any questions, please visit our Franciscan Village Facebook page or the Franciscan Ministry **COVID-19 Web Page - [www.franciscanministries.org/coronavirus-response/](http://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*  
Judy Amiano  
President and CEO

