

This communication was sent in an email on March 26, 2020.

Saint Mary's & COVID-19: Update #2

We know that taking the necessary steps to ensure a clean and safe environment for our residents and employees continues to be of the utmost importance. At this time, no known cases of COVID-19 have been reported at Saint Mary's East or Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge.

In addition to the recent steps we have taken, we thought it might be reassuring to share with you some of the infection prevention protocols we already have in place.

Each campus has an **Infection Preventionist** who has been specially trained to recognize patterns of infections and to implement best practices to help stop the spread of disease.

The air filtration system throughout our buildings are designed to help prevent the spread of infections. Our **high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters** are treated with UV light, which significantly reduces the transmission rates of harmful particles.

Each campus has two **negative air pressure rooms** that can be used to help isolate individuals and prevent cross contamination between rooms. While this is beneficial, the CDC guidelines state that a private room with a closed door and private bathroom are suitable for COVID-19 patients.

Environmental Cleaning of all high-touch surfaces and equipment used for resident care is performed frequently throughout our facility. In addition to our routine cleaning, our housekeepers are diligently and efficiently following CDC disinfecting guidelines.

We are **conserving and monitoring our supply** of cleaning items and of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as gowns, gloves and masks. We are actively working with our partners and seeking out ways to increase our supplies.

As always, the needs of our residents and families are important to us. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns. We know how hard the no visitation policy is and we are looking forward to seeing our friends and families reconnect in-person once it is safe to do so.

In the meantime, stay home and stay healthy!