



SAINT MARY'S AT ASBURY RIDGE
SAINT MARY'S EAST

This communication was sent in an email on April 16, 2021.

Saint Mary's & COVID-19: Update #56

Good Afternoon!

Saint Mary's continues to be fortunate to have no new cases of COVID-19 among employees or residents at either campus. We are still testing all employees once per week as well as certain residents whose exposure from leaving the building puts them at higher risk.

The COVID-19 positivity rate for Erie County has increased slightly to 6%. Visitation as currently conducted is permitted when the positivity rate is below 10% and when at least 70% or more of the residents in the facility are vaccinated. If the positivity rate climbs above 10%, some additional safety measures and restrictions may need to be implemented.

On the vaccine front, Saint Mary's has been working closely with a team at UPMC to coordinate additional vaccination clinics at our campuses. With these easy and accessible small-scale clinics, employees and residents who are new to our community or who may have declined the vaccine previously have opportunities to be vaccinated on-site at Saint Mary's. Additionally, the PA Department of Health just announced yesterday further support in providing long-term care communities with vaccine doses.

Across Erie County, skilled nursing communities are averaging a vaccination rate of about 47% among staff and 80% among residents. Both of our campuses are reporting above average vaccination rates! In fact, Saint Mary's has some of the highest vaccination rates in Erie County among skilled nursing facilities. While our numbers fluctuate with admissions, discharges and turnover, overall the vaccination rate is fairly consistent. At Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge about 72% of staff and 91% of residents are vaccinated. At Saint Mary's East around 60% of staff and 90% of residents are vaccinated.

Also, please remember that visitors are to be limiting travel through the building. **Visitors must go directly to the room where they will be visiting and remain there. Visitors are not permitted to roam about the building.** When weather permits, visitors are encouraged to transport the resident directly to and from the outdoor visitor space, since outdoor visits are safer for residents and visitors. We know that many of you would like to walk about the building, use the café, or visit in common areas – but these activities are not permitted at this time.

We all must continue to adhere to the core principles of infection prevention and control to help keep our community safe. Remember the three W's: **Wear a mask, Wash your hands, and Watch your distance.**

Have a good weekend!