

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

Saint Mary's & COVID-19: Update #15

I can't believe it's been over 100 days since this started. I hope everyone continues to stay healthy and hopeful – it may not always feel like it, but we will get through this!

Testing: Saint Mary's East has completed initial testing of all residents and employees conducted earlier this week. Two residents were discovered to be positive for COVID-19. Both residents were asymptomatic and have been transferred to our COVID-19 wing where they are resting comfortably. The results for all employees have been negative. All East employees and residents are required to participate in continued weekly testing thru the 14-day incubation period established on our positive result date and continue until testing determines no new cases. The next round of testing will now take place on Wednesday, July 1st and Thursday, July 2nd.

Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge is still on track to conduct initial testing on July 16th and 17th. Observations and best practices learned from the testing conducted at the East campus are being shared with Asbury Ridge staff members as they prepare their testing plan.

Green Phase & Reopening: Erie County advancing to the Green Phase does not mean that Saint Mary's will open for visitation. Be aware that to reopen for visitation, nursing homes must meet certain criteria involving case status in both the community and facility, staffing levels, access to testing, adequate PPE, and local hospital capacity. All visitor restrictions and current policies will remain in place until further notice.

We are, however, making preliminary plans for what it will look like when visitors are allowed once again. Lifting restrictions will be gradual and many requirements will remain in place, such as masking, social distancing, temperature screenings, etc. We also need to consider the overall visitor capacity, visitors per resident, visiting hours, length of visits, designated areas for visitation, etc. We will share more information as we finalize a plan.

Window Visitations: We know that the isolation has been hard on residents and families. As our county transitions to green, we are working on a plan to allow window visitations. These visitations will require a high level of coordination and we ask for your patience for just a bit longer while we implement a policy. Please understand that window visitations will likely need to be scheduled in advance and will be limited in both time and frequency. This is necessary so that our staff members can manage their duties while also help transport and coordinate residents. We know these visits will be the beginning of a joyful (and emotional) reunion for

many! We continue to offer virtual visits as well. For now, sit tight and stay tuned for more details.

Finally, keep in mind that even if restrictions are gradually lifted, they could be imposed again and we may need to reverse course if the situation changes. Please continue to make smart choices and take precautions as you become active in the community again. Have a nice weekend!