

February 24, 2021

Dear Family Members,

This letter brings the disappointing news that we just found out this morning that one of our staff members tested positive for COVID-19 on Monday. This staff member was fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and is asymptomatic. Despite all this, we have to discontinue family visitations and quarantine the entire unit for two weeks.

I would also like to inform you that the State Health Department has issued updated guidelines concerning family visitations. We are in the process of revising our policy and hope to have it revised within the next week. Testing for visitation will be based on the COVID 19 positivity rate of our county. Bronx county has a 7-day average of 5.9 % as of today. That would put us in the medium category for visitation. That would mean,

***Medium (5% – 10%) = Visitation should occur according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies. Visitor testing is required. Visitors must present a negative COVID19 test result from within the past seventy-two hours. Additionally, all visitors must adhere to all infection control practices.***

Visitation will still need to be supervised as we are expected ensure that infection control guidelines and standards are being respected. Facilities must have no positive tests for 14 days before they can restart visitation. This has not changed.

I'm sorry we are back to quarantining the skilled unit but as we all know this virus can be deadly and we want to do all we can to continue to keep our Residents safe. God bless.

Sincerely,

Sr. Gertrude Mary lsp