



June 12, 2020
COVID-19 Update

Dear St. John's Residents, Tenants and Family,

Last week, I reported that two of our staff tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. One employee works at the Highway 13 site and the other employee works at the Fountain Lake site.

As of today, we have gotten through the 14 day time frame since these two staff tested positive for the virus. What this means is that the virus did not spread to other staff, or to any of the nursing home residents or apartment tenants. We can't be 100% certain that the virus was contained, but it's a very positive sign that others have not had symptoms, or tested positive for the virus.

As of the date of this COVID Update, we do not have any residents or tenants at either of St. John's locations that have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. I am very thankful to our staff for taking precautions to keep this virus away from our residents, tenants and each other.

Earlier this week nursing homes and assisted living communities received guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) on the opening of beauty shops. We are planning on opening the beauty shop at the Highway 13 location next week. We would then open the beauty shop at the Fountain Lake site the week of June 21. It will take a few weeks to get everyone through the beauty shop, but opening up will be welcome news for our residents and tenants.

Testing of the nursing home residents at the Highway 13 site is scheduled for June 23 and 24. Staff at the Highway 13 site will also be tested during these two days. Residents or their family will need to sign a consent form authorizing the test. A copy of the consent form can be found on St. John's website. One of St. John's nurses will be contacting the resident or the responsible party for authorization to perform the test. The sample collection will be performed by Mayo staff. St. John's nurses will be trained to perform the sample collection as well and may take the samples in the future. Residents are not required to be tested, but it is encouraged by the MDH. Please keep in mind that the COVID test is a snapshot of time. A person that tests negative for the COVID-19 virus one day, could test positive for the virus a few days later.

Testing at the Fountain Lake site has not been scheduled yet, but it will likely be scheduled for the second or third week in July.

Our goal regarding the COVID-19 virus remains the same - we are trying to keep this virus out of our buildings and away from our residents, tenants and staff. This is a difficult time for us with visitor restrictions and social distancing, wearing masks during hot, humid weather, and not having large group activities for our residents and tenants. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we take these precautions to protect the health and safety of our residents, tenants, and staff.

Sincerely,

Scot Spates
St. John's Lutheran Community
CEO / Administrator