

December 31, 2020 COVID Update

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

We ended 2020 on a very positive note with the COVID-19 vaccine clinic today. Most of the nursing home residents at both St. John's locations were vaccinated today. This provides some much needed protection to our nursing home residents from the COVID-19 virus.

Some of St. John's employees were vaccinated today as well. There was not enough vaccine to vaccinate all employees that wanted to be vaccinated. Employees that weren't vaccinated today will be able to get vaccinated on January 28, 2021.

At this time, we do not know when the vaccine will be made available to assisted Living and independent living tenants. Needless to say, the sooner the better.

We had excellent results from the COVID-19 testing this week. We tested residents and staff on Monday, December 28. None of the nursing home residents or employees tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. We tested employees again on Wednesday, December 30, and one employee tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. This employee works at the Woodlands and is in quarantine.

Next week, we will begin testing employees and nursing home residents once a week. The Freeborn County positivity rate has dropped below 10%, so testing is recommended by the Minnesota Department of Health once per week.

We have been very fortunate and blessed at St. John's, in that we have been able to control the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We have not had a major outbreak of this virus among residents, tenants or staff. Over the past 10 months since this pandemic started we have had 4 residents that have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus and one tenant. We've had 42 employees that have tested positive since this pandemic began in March, 2020. This is a lot of employees that have been infected, but it is spread out over a ten month period, and fortunately not in large numbers at one time.

This pandemic is not over yet, but I feel relieved that our nursing home residents are now vaccinated and protected from the COVID-19 virus. Hopefully, our assisted living and independent living tenants will be vaccinated in the near future. I'm looking forward to the New Year, because I think we are on a path to put this virus behind us. I'm very hopeful that 2021 will be a good year for our residents, tenants, their families, and St. John's staff.

I wish all of you a healthy and happy New Year, and God's blessings each and every day of 2021. Sincerely,

**Scot Spates**