



## WEEKLY UPDATE

**December 15, 2021**

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives:

Please accept this letter as Northampton Manor's weekly update to keep you informed about the status of COVID in our facility and what we are doing to keep our residents and staff safe during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Since our last update we have had no new staff members or residents test positive for COVID-19. The last staff member to test positive was on March 16, 2021.

### **"It's a New Day at Northampton"**

We continue to have the doors to the main entrance open between 9 am and 4:30 pm every day. All visitors are screened when they come in. If you would like to leave after 4:30pm, please have a staff member assist you to exit the building. If entering the back door, you must still be screened.

We are now conducting routine testing according to the facility's county level of community transmission instead of the county positivity rate. The county level of community transmission has changed from high to substantial this week! We are continuing to test all staff members according to CMS guidance. All tests conducted thus far have been negative. Per MDH guidance and CMS recommendation we are only required to test those staff members who aren't fully vaccinated. We will continue to test residents and staff if they are displaying any signs or symptoms of Covid-19. Per CMS and CDC recommendations all new admissions are tested and only those new admissions that are unvaccinated are assigned to a room on the observation unit for 14 days. We are decorating for the Christmas holiday and we look forward to seeing family and friends during this season. Please remember to check with nursing before bringing in any food items as some of our residents are on restricted diets.

This week we have tested 5 residents, 1 of whom was a new admission and 4 who had symptoms. One staff member was tested with cold symptoms. All of the tests performed were negative. Please remember this is cold season. As of this time 96% of our staff and 91% of our residents are fully vaccinated with 56 residents and 60 staff receiving the booster.

We also continue to implement and practice enhanced safety precautions recommended by our federal, state and local health officials, performing regular screenings for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering the building, continually monitoring residents, performing regular deep cleanings, using PPE as recommended by the CDC, implementing isolation protocols as required and reminding and encouraging staff to practice social distancing, use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

Please continue to check our website for updates. As always, we will notify you if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at 301-662-8700.

Sincerely,

*Mark McElwee*

Mark McElwee  
Administrator