



Jan 15th, 2022

Dear Residents/Families/Responsible parties,

We completed the POC (rapid tests) on all residents and staff on 4th floor and TLC on Friday and found a new asymptomatic positive resident who has since been moved to our COVID-19 wing on third floor. We received the remainder of the PCR tests on Friday, and no other staff or residents were positive from Monday's tests. We continue to follow testing times and cycles from Public Health, and will keep you updated.

Thank-you for wearing a mask at all times during your visit as well as eye protection. We truly encourage you to ask staff to help put a mask on the resident you are visiting as added protection for both you as a visitor as well as the resident you are visiting. Always ensure your mask covers over your nose (please pinch the metal band so it fits tightly over your nose) and under your chin at all times inside Maplewood.

Our ongoing post-visit reminder; **if you develop any of the concerning symptoms or are diagnosed with COVID-19 within the few days** after your visit PLEASE call us.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Kindopp
Maplewood Nursing Home Administrator



Jan 13, 2022

Dear Residents/Families/Responsible parties,

We have 3 new staff that tested positive since our last correspondence. We're still missing some results from our PCR tests performed Monday; it could be that labs are inundated with more than usual tests from around the state. We will continue multiple testing days per week and continue to report cases to Public Health, DHHS and you as always.

You may have heard talk of upgrading your masks due to how contagious the current Omicron variant is. As a reminder, we are leaving out boxes of the surgical masks at our front desk that will expire in March – please take some and use these coverings at a minimum when you are indoors in places other than your home, or if you are going to be outdoors where 6 foot spacing from others is difficult. Being fully vaccinated and boosted can decrease your potential for getting this virus, but what the vaccines are best at is to prevent significant illness. Most of the positive case reports since the beginning of this year are in staff/residents who are fully vaccinated and boosted. Being boosted doesn't mean you can't get the virus, but the level of illness has been reported as milder in those who are boosted.

Thank-you for wearing a mask at all times during your visit as well as eye protection. We truly encourage you to ask staff to help put a mask on the resident you are visiting as added protection for both you as a visitor as well as the resident you are visiting. Always ensure your mask covers over your nose (please pinch the metal band so it fits tightly over your nose) and under your chin at all times inside Maplewood.

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Sincerely,

Kathryn Kindopp
Maplewood Nursing Home Administrator



Jan 11, 2022

Dear Residents/Families/Responsible parties,

We have 2 new staff that have tested positive. Yesterday we completed the PCR tests for staff and residents, and we expect to get those results starting tomorrow. We will continue multiple testing days per week and continue to report cases to you as always.

A note about case reports; if we were to have a worker take a few days off and while doing so have a known exposure and they subsequently tested positive but had not yet returned to work; we alert public health, but this case would not warrant a family letter because there was no resident or staff contact within the concerning time frame for transmission. In a different example, if we were to have a worker (even if they never come into contact with residents) have symptoms and/or a positive test within 48 hours of having worked (even if their exposure was determined to be from a positive household member), this would constitute a case we would have to report to you as well as PH and DHHS. Many recent staff cases include exposures to known household positive members. These are the types of cases we work with and Public Health counts into our facility outbreak. Each situation requires review of all facts to determine if the worker needs to stay out, if and when they get tested, and when they can return. The new CDC guidance is complicated, but we work through each individual case as carefully as possible while balancing the safety and care needs of residents as well as support department needs. We are blessed to have a dedicated team of individuals who work very hard including significant overtime to care for our residents and ensure the support functions have continued to operate through all the pandemic has thrown at us.

Three National Guards began training with us today. One will assist in visitor screening 5 days per week, and two will assist in our dietary department.

As a reminder, please wear your mask covering well from over your nose to under your chin at all times inside Maplewood. The goggles help to protect you, and if your loved one is able to tolerate it, we can help to put a mask on them for added protection for both of you.

Our ongoing post-visit reminder; **if you develop any of the concerning symptoms or are diagnosed with COVID-19 within the few days** after your visit PLEASE call us.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Kindopp
Maplewood Nursing Home Administrator



Jan 9, 2022

Dear Residents/Families/Responsible parties,

We found two new positive residents from rapid testing this weekend and they have been moved to the COVID-19 unit. We have sent messages to Public Health and DHHS, and our next testing for all residents and most staff is tomorrow, Monday Jan 10th, with the PCR tests. In addition to the multiple pre-set testing times each week, we continue to test any resident when symptoms occur.

We expect 3 soldiers from the National Guard to start with us Tuesday. We will orient them, and 5 days a week, you may see one helping us screen visitors. We will train them in use of the rapid tests, and visitors may be asked if we can perform a POC/rapid test prior to going up to the resident units. These tests are good (not perfect) at finding cases when one has symptoms, however, we have found several asymptomatic or presymptomatic staff and residents.

As a reminder, please wear your mask covering well from over your nose to under your chin at all times inside Maplewood. The goggles help to protect you, and if your loved one is able to tolerate it, we can help to put a mask on them for added protection.

Our ongoing post-visit reminder; **if you develop any of the concerning symptoms or are diagnosed with COVID-19 within the few days** after your visit PLEASE call us so that we can put measures into place. We all need to work together to manage this virus and its impacts to all residents and staff.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Kindopp
Maplewood Nursing Home Administrator



1/7/22

Dear Residents/Families/Responsible parties,

We found two new positive residents on our planned rapid tests today and they have been moved to the COVID-19 unit. Public Health and DHHS are updated, and our next testing for all residents and most staff is Monday with the PCR tests. We continue to test any resident when symptoms occur. Staff continues to report community exposures – often within their household. We follow the CDC timeframes which need to be individualized at this time due to various caveats that determine the length of time for being out as well as testing time frames. The virus continues to be widely circulating in our community.

I have confirmation of the arrival of assistance from the National Guard early next week. We will put them through some training and anticipate placing one at our entryway to assist with screening visitors. We are grateful to the Governor and DHHS with whom we've been working to request this for a few weeks now.

We have also scheduled another vaccination clinic at Maplewood on February 9th. At that time, any eligible resident will be offered this opportunity for their booster as well as staff members who will also be in the appropriate time frame for their booster. Currently, all eligible residents are fully vaccinated and boosted. There are only a few residents who are fully vaccinated but not yet within the time frame for their booster but will be by the date of the clinic.

Our ongoing post-visit reminder; **if you develop any of the concerning symptoms or are diagnosed with COVID-19 within the few days** after your visit PLEASE call us so that we can put measures into place. We all need to work together to manage this virus and its impacts to all residents and staff.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Kindopp, Administrator



1/6/22

Dear Residents/Families/Responsible parties,

Yesterday, we were informed of 2 more residents and one non-direct care staff with COVID-19 from our testing on Monday, and this morning another non-direct staff let us know of their positive test. We have moved the residents to our special wing on our empty floor. We will test all second floor residents and staff again on Friday with rapid tests, then Monday all residents and most staff throughout the building with PCR tests.

We've been working with the state and requested some number of weeks ago any assistance the National Guard may be able to give us. We understand that the guard would not be able to help us with clinical needs, but we anticipate they may be able to help with screening visitors some days of the week possibly including rapid testing. If this comes to pass, we may see some help as soon as next week.

We are beginning to see more impacts from the virus including more staff learning of exposures such as from family members. We are following the new CDC guidelines for healthcare workers and are starting with the most conservative approach, but as staffing becomes more impacted, we will need to progress from the CDC 'conventional' operations guide to the CDC 'contingency' guide. We hope very much to avoid the CDC 'crisis' guide, but monitoring reports from hard hit areas, we need to reasonably plan for some very difficult times in the next few weeks. Please be patient with us as we prioritize resident care and may be challenged in answering phones or other correspondence as quickly as we'd all like.

Our PPE status remains strong and we have many boxes of blue surgical masks that 'expire' in March. We will put some of these specific masks out for staff and/or visitors to take in the coming weeks. We can all help by wearing masks when out and about.

A reminder that we ask you to help be the primary contact for your extended family to give them updates, particularly as we begin to navigate this next wave of the virus.

Our ongoing post-visit reminder; **if you develop any of the concerning symptoms or are diagnosed with COVID-19 within the few days** after your visit PLEASE call us so that we can put measures into place. We all need to work together to manage this virus and its impacts to all residents and staff.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Kindopp, Administrator