



Episcopal Retirement Services

June 23, 2020

Dear Residents, Staff, and Families,

As I shared last week, we had a staff member test positive for COVID-19. After receiving this information, a resident living in the same area had a fever. At that point, we tested all residents and staff who live and work within this household. We received test results yesterday afternoon that one additional staff member and two residents at Marjorie P. Lee (MPL) tested positive for COVID-19. We have not received all results at this time.

The two residents have been moved to an area of the building to be in isolation away from other non-COVID residents. The staff members are self-quarantining at home with mild symptoms and will be back at work once they meet CDC guidelines.

I know that some of you want to know exactly who and where the cases are within the building. However, we are unable to share specifics with everyone due to HIPAA and privacy regulations. The staff, residents, and families that have been impacted have been notified directly.

Like you, we are not surprised by the increased number of cases; in fact, an uptick was predicted by Dr. Amy Acton once Ohio started reopening. As you may also be aware, Governor DeWine has shared that Hamilton County is a hot spot in the state of Ohio. Now more than ever, we all have to double down on our protocols and expectations. You may have heard that the Governor has also mandated testing of all staff who work in Ohio senior living communities. Today, the National Guard was in and tested all staff who work at MPL. We expect the results in a week or so. Nationally, testing of this type reveals that as many as 25-50% of the population has COVID-19 but are asymptomatic. We expect the results in a week or so. We are waiting to hear when testing will occur at Deupree House and Cottages.

There are no further updates about other cases of COVID-19 in ERS communities. The following is our weekly update and cumulative reporting for our communities.

COVID-19 Reporting	Episcopal Church Home	Deupree House & Cottages	Marjorie P. Lee
Residents			
Current residents with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	2
Cumulative residents with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	2
Staff			
Current staff with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	4

Cumulative staff with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	8
3 or more residents or staff with new-onset COVID-19 symptoms in a 72-hour period.			
Current occurrences	0	0	1
Cumulative occurrences	0	0	2

There have been no staff or resident cases of COVID-19 in our affordable living communities at this time.

We have taken a variety of steps to proactively mitigate COVID-19 in our communities. The following is a summary of our protocols.

- Isolation or Quarantine:** Residents and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 are quarantined. In collaboration with our medical directors, we order testing for residents and our staff work with their primary care doctor to access tests. We are following the CDC guidance related to staff members returning to work after a positive test. Specifically, we are using the *symptom-based strategy* which excludes staff from work until:
 - At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed *since recovery* defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and** improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); **and**,
 - At least 10 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared*.
- Pre-Screen:** All staff member's temperature and assessment of symptoms are taken before the enter the community and prior to them starting work.
- Regular Monitoring:** As long as the staff member doesn't have a temperature or symptoms, they are self-monitoring and reporting changes. Additionally, residents temperatures are checked multiple times a day.
- Wear a Mask:** Staff are now wearing a face mask at all times while in the workplace.
- Social Distance:** Staff will maintain 6-foot distance to practice social distancing as work duties permit in the workplace.
- Disinfect and Clean Work Spaces:** Clean and disinfect all areas such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, and shared electronic equipment routinely. Additionally, proper handwashing is being emphasized

Please let me know if you have suggestions or questions.

Sincerely,



Laura R. P. Lamb
President & CEO