



June 25, 2020

Dear Residents, Staff, and Families,

Many families have shared how troubling it is to get my updates and not know specifics about who has been tested and where the positive cases are within the building. I understand this feeling very personally since my mother was a resident at MPL before she died in 2018. During this pandemic, I have often reflected on how I would feel if my mom were still living. I would have the same concerns that some of you have expressed. Moving forward, we have decided that we will share what household residents live on and what areas or departments staff work within when sharing COVID-19 updates. I know that you will most likely want more information than household and department, but we are unable to provide any information which would allow someone to identify an individual person. We want all of our families and staff to know that their personal health information is confidential. I know that we can agree that if we were the ones that were ill, we would want to have assurances of privacy and confidentiality.

The following is a description of households' names from the letter of June 23<sup>rd</sup>:

As I shared last week, we had a staff member test positive for COVID-19 who works on Luther/Kirby at Marjorie Lee. After receiving this information, a resident living in the same area had a fever. At that point, we tested all Luther/Kirby residents as well as all staff who work within Luther/Kirby at Marjorie Lee. We received test results Monday afternoon that one additional staff member as well as two residents from Luther/Kirby tested positive for COVID-19. One resident test result is still pending; all other results have returned negative.

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.

**In addition, as of today, we have our third cumulative occurrences at Marjorie Lee. We have had three staff members (residential living, Luther/Kirby/Morris, and dining) who have respiratory symptoms. The staff member who works in residential living tested positive and is being isolated at home. The other two staff members have been tested and are quarantined at home until results are known.**

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
<b>Residents</b>			
Current* residents with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	0

Cumulative residents with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	2
<b>Staff</b>			
Current staff with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	1
Cumulative staff with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	9
<b>3 or more residents or staff with new-onset COVID-19 symptoms in a 72-hour period.</b>			
Current occurrences	0	0	1
Cumulative occurrences	0	0	3

\*“Current” is defined as new cases that have not been previously shared.

**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