



Episcopal Retirement Services

October 27, 2020

Dear Residents and Families,

We have another occurrence of respiratory systems to report today at Marjorie P. Lee. As you know, this is the third occurrence in the last week. With Hamilton County's rate of occurrence near the highest level and entering cold and flu season, we expected an increase in respiratory occurrences and cases. All residents and staff with symptoms have been tested, and we are awaiting results. Out of an abundance of caution, we have quarantined the Berghamer Household as we wait for results.

We have received many questions about respiratory occurrences. I want to offer more insight into the data and process. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requires that we report two metrics: positive cases and respiratory occurrences. An occurrence is defined as three or more residents or staff with new-onset COVID-19 respiratory symptoms in 72 hours. Respiratory symptoms include cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, congestion, wheezing, runny nose, etc. Since March, our team of directors of nursing and administrators meets daily to review all reports of symptoms among residents and staff to determine if we have trends. We plot where the staff and residents with symptoms live and work, along with positive cases, to identify any possible trends.

Additionally, we track the symptoms to determine when we meet the requirement of three or more staff and/or residents with respiratory symptoms within a 72 hour period. Not all individuals who have symptoms turn out to have COVID, and we know this will be even more common during the cold and flu season. The discipline of tracking symptoms allows us to have an understanding of what is happening within our communities in each household. The purpose of monitoring both actual cases and symptom on-set is essential. Like in all businesses, there are leading and lagging indicators. For example, outside of our industry, home showings are a leading indicator in the real estate market, whereas home sales are lagging indicators. In COVID, a respiratory symptom is a leading indicator, and the number of positive cases is a lagging indicator. Knowing both is critical to help mitigate an outbreak.

Unfortunately, I must share that we have a resident and a staff member at Shawnee Place, our affordable living (AL) community in Springfield, have tested positive for COVID-19. Based on contact tracing, these cases are not connected. Both the resident and staff member are quarantining at home at this time. Because these cases are in our AL community, they are not included in the chart below.

The results from our routine surveillance testing are coming back from last week at our three communities. The positive cases have been reported; however, I wanted to share the summary with you.

Deupree House and Cottages:
 Episcopal Church Home:
 Marjorie P. Lee:

166 tested/166 negative/0 positive
 167 tested/164 negative/3 indeterminate **
 265 tested/265 negative/0 positive

The following is the cumulative reporting for our communities:

COVID-19 Reporting	Episcopal Church Home	Deupree House & Cottages	Marjorie Lee
Current residents with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	0
Cumulative residents with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	6
Staff*			
Current staff with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	0
Cumulative staff with confirmed COVID-19	6	5	27
3 or more residents or staff with new-onset COVID-19 respiratory symptoms in a 72-hour period.			
Current occurrences	0	0	1
Cumulative occurrences	0	2	10

*Private duty and contracted staff are reported to our residents and families, however, are not included in the cumulative chart above based on reporting guidelines by the city and state.

As shared in previous letters, we continue to follow all CDC guidelines and mitigation practices to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Please let me know if you have any suggestions or questions.

Sincerely,



Laura Lamb, President and CEO

** Indeterminant tests have been retested, and we are awaiting results.