

7/20/20

Weekly update following COVID-positive test on 7/13/20

Dear resident/resident representative,

On 7/13/20, Pinecrest notified you that we had conducted baseline COVID-19 testing of residents and staff as recommended by CMS. As a result of this testing, we learned that one staff member was COVID-positive. At the time of our notification, we were still waiting on the results of an additional 60 tests.

The additional 60 tests results were received in the days that followed, and all of those tests were negative. At this time, we have no residents or staff with COVID-19 symptoms.

As required by IDPH after receiving a positive test result, Pinecrest will continue to test residents and staff on a weekly basis until no positive tests are received. Testing of residents and staff will occur on Wednesday, 7/22 and Friday, 7/24. We will provide the results of this testing in our weekly updates that are posted on our website at <https://www.pinecrestcommunity.org/Pinecrest-Information/COVID-19-pandemic-information>

Since mid-March, Pinecrest has been following every protective measure issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and our local health department in an effort to protect our residents and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. The dedicated staff of Pinecrest Community has taken extraordinary measures to ensure the safety of all our residents.

Resident safety is a top priority for Pinecrest Community. Pinecrest remains in close contact with our local health department as we conduct weekly testing of residents and staff. Pinecrest management continues to rely on the local and state public health departments as well as CMS and the CDC to stay up to date on information to prevent and manage the spread of Coronavirus.

- We have reviewed and updated our infection prevention and control plans and our emergency communication plan.
- We are following general public health best practices: handwashing, using alcohol-based hand sanitizers and wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- We have reinforced to our staff that anyone who is sick should stay home, and we are screening all essential personnel as they enter the building and mid-way through their shift.
- We will place residents with any symptoms in early contact isolation and droplet protection until a definitive diagnosis is made. (at this time, we have no residents with symptoms.)
- We will keep ill individuals away from healthy individuals by cohorting ill residents together on wing 4.
- We are requiring the use of masks by residents if they need to leave their rooms. Resident movement outside of their rooms is severely restricted.
- We will continue to keep family members up to date as this situation unfolds, so they have the latest information about their loved ones.
- We will follow CDC guidance for our return to work policy for any staff member who tests positive.

If you are unable to access our website, please notify us at 815-734-4103 and we will mail you the weekly update.

If you have any questions about the information in this letter, please do not hesitate to call or email me at flabash@pinecrestcommunity.org . You may also contact Jolene LeClere, Administrator of Health Services, at 815-734-4103 or email jleclere@pinecrestcommunity.org.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for the safety of our residents and staff. Together we are stronger!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ferol J. Labash".

Ferol J. Labash
Chief Executive Officer