



Montgomery Place

FROM 
Deborah E. Hart, CEO and President

DATE April 13, 2020

SUBJ MONTGOMERY PLACE SECURES NEW OPPORTUNITIES
FOR TESTING DURING THIS TIME OF COVID-19

I'm back after a restful weekend. Please accept my apology for not sending a note last night. That's because there wasn't anything new to share at that time. Today we report the same two cases on our skilled nursing care wing, with no cases in other parts of our building. One other skilled nursing care patient returned to the hospital for conditions unrelated to COVID-19.

So today, a beautiful sunny (but cold) day is one of the first days when the State of Illinois reports a bit lower number in positive COVID-19 cases. Let's hope it is the beginning of a trend. Still, this encouraging report does not mean we are past this pandemic. It still reaches out and continues to spread. We must keep up our guard.

We are working to arrange for COVID-19 testing in skilled nursing care and assisted living. The University of Chicago Hospital is helping us make arrangements that we hope will be confirmed during the next few days.

On the same front, our occupational health provider will test staff members. This provider conducts physicals for prospective employees and treats staff members for on-the-job injuries. The UC Medicine also will open its drive-thru testing site for employees of healthcare facilities.

Plus, now that they are available, we've ordered test kits to begin testing all residents of independent living. These tests only will help us know where the virus is as of the testing date. It does offer, however, information about containing the virus if it is present. More than ever, we must maintain our vigilance into the coming weeks.

Today, our medical director spent time with our staff to review how the virus spreads as well as how to mitigate its spread with proper techniques and use of PPE. This meeting also gave our staff members another opportunity to ask questions and increase their level of comfort. We also reviewed the PPE resources available to us and demonstrated how to use, handle, treat and clean PPE.

Starting on Tuesday, April 14, we will complete setting up an isolation unit at one end of a hallway to more totally contain virus positive patients. Our continually increased measures will improve our efforts to contain COVID-19.

Good news today for our residents is that apartment cleaning will occur beginning this week. Again, residents will wait in the elevator lobby on their floor while their home is being cleaned. This is just another way we can reduce person-to person

contact. And there's more. Tuesday is our weekly wine and cheese "gathering," sure to bring smiles to everyone.

Until then, I bid you a good night.

Our work continues so please contact me with your suggestions and questions. Call my mobile phone number, 773-617-1317, at any time.

Staying vigilant, gives us strength.