

**ALL STAFF/FAMILIES/RESIDENT ALERT:**

We are delighted to notify everyone that no new cases of COVID-19 were identified with this week's testing. We will test all staff/residents/tenants again on Monday. We currently have one resident on COVID precautions and those precautions will be lifted on Monday. We will only be testing weekly this week as we have seen a drop in our county rates. Weekly testing will only take place on Monday and as needed based on symptoms.

We are thrilled to announce that our first **COVID-19 vaccine clinic will be on Wednesday January 13, 2021 from 11am-5pm**. We will use the main entrance that day and vaccination will take place in the new Community Room/Activity Room. Please watch for a text with your assigned time and get your consents turned in by Monday January 11<sup>th</sup>. Our second vaccine day will be February 10<sup>th</sup> and a third date has been set for March 10<sup>th</sup>. If you miss the 13<sup>th</sup> for some reason you can begin your series on February 10<sup>th</sup>. The vaccine clinic day will be a joyous day, but you may have questions about what to expect. We encourage you to review the CDC's resource [What to Expect at Your Appointment to Get Vaccinated for COVID-19](#).

We are pleased that those most at-risk of COVID-19, vulnerable seniors and professional caregivers, have been prioritized to receive the vaccine. Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 is the best ways to protect long-term care residents and caregivers from COVID-19. This vaccine gives us hope for the next chapter in our fight against COVID-19. We want everyone in our communities who wants a vaccine to get it as soon as possible. However, we cannot mandate that staff/residents or tenants accept the COVID-19 vaccine. Therefore, it will continue to be important for senior living communities to follow safety protocols to protect seniors who we know are most at risk for serious consequences of COVID-19.

The COVID-19 vaccine is a ray of hope for many older adults who have been so cut off from their family and friends over these past months. A successful vaccination program is a huge step forward in beating COVID. While this is a momentous occasion that marks the next chapter in our fight against the virus, it is just the beginning of a conversation about reopening long-term care settings. We have not received word of any updated guidance from the State about visitation in our settings. As soon as we start to successfully administer the vaccine throughout Minnesota and positivity rates begin fall, we hope we can begin to discuss what's next for our community and for long-term care communities across our state. Long term care facilities will not be able to return to normal visitation routines until a vaccine is administered to most residents and staff. Even then, experts are saying that most of the population will have to be vaccinated before we can return to normal.

Please be patient about changes in safety protocols as vaccinations roll out across Minnesota. Even though the vaccine is here, the virus is still being transmitted throughout our state and we need to continue to be cautious to protect the health and well-being of residents and staff. Until we receive updated guidance from the State, we ask that everyone, even those not connected directly with long-term care settings, continue infection prevention and control practices—Wear a mask, wash your hands, don't touch your face when you're out, stay home if you're feeling sick—These measures will help keep the positivity rate low and allow long-term care settings to employ safe and socially distanced visitation for residents.

Consent form preview:

<https://info.omnicare.com/rs/095-VIX-581/images/COVID%2019%20Vaccine%20Intake%20Consent%20Form.pdf>

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet:

<https://www.modernatx.com/covid19vaccine-eua/eua-fact-sheet-recipients.pdf>

COVID 19 Vaccination Frequently Asked Questions:

[https://info.omnicare.com/rs/095-VIX-581/images/COVID-19%20Vaccination%20FAQs\\_V2.pdf](https://info.omnicare.com/rs/095-VIX-581/images/COVID-19%20Vaccination%20FAQs_V2.pdf)

CDC's Questions about New COVID-19 Vaccines:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/hcp-employees-general-faqs.pdf>

Sincerely,

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