

COVID-19 Staff Requests and Updates

All Staff;

The Buffalo Lake Healthcare Center and Westview Estates Assisted Living is actively following all the required guidelines related to COVID-19. Regulations and guidance changes daily sometimes within minutes of the last change. We thank you for your patience as we process and debate the best actions for our staff and residents.

In response to COVID-19 we have a few additional requests for staff:

- 1) **Staff Email addresses.** If our facility would have a positive case of COVID-19 anyone who has had contact with that person within the last 48hrs of when the test was completed will be contact by MDH. MDH will ask questions related to exposure and provide guidance on isolation and testing if needed. They will keep in constant contact with you either by phone or email. For MDH and most staff, email may be the easiest form of contact. So, if you have an email please write it down at the screening station next time you come to work. Compiling a list of this information ahead of time will help alleviate any hiccups in the contact tracing process.
- 2) **All staff and residents in long term care facilities to be tested for COVID-19.** Governor Tim Walz has implemented a 5-Point Action plan for Minnesota nursing homes as a way to further stop the spread of COVID-19. The first point in the plan relates to testing for all staff and residents in long term care. We are following MDH guidance to prepare for facility wide testing.
- 3) **Continue to follow PPE and social distancing guidelines at work and at home.**
 - a. Wear the required PPE while at work, (Surgical Face Mask, Eye Protection and Droplet Precautions when required)
 - b. Wear a fabric facemask while out in the community (includes when visiting family and friends)
 - c. Practice social distancing while in the community (includes while visiting family and friends)
 - d. Monitor yourself for signs or symptoms of COVID-19 and do NOT come to work if you are ill. Get tested immediately.
 - e. Please re-use your surgical mask for up to 3 days to help conserve supply.

Thank you,

Incident Command Team