



May 19, 2020

Dear Smith Village Family,

As part of a person's journey from contracting COVID-19 to affirming an individual's recovery by testing negative for the virus, some people living and working at Smith Village have been tested several times. This is how we monitor their progress and, ultimately, confirm they have recovered. Since Smith Village began providing tests in March, we have received and responded to the findings of more than 400 test results.

To provide an accurate and current picture of our progress to date, we revised how we report the status of residents and staff members today.

- A total of **18 residents**—two in assisted living and 16 who were cared for in our isolation unit—**have recovered from COVID-19**.
- **Seven residents**, who are still battling the virus, **continue to receive care in our isolation unit**.
- Currently, **all 38 residents in the skilled nursing care wing**, outside of the isolation unit, and **all 56 residents in our assisted living wing have tested negative for the virus**.
- **One independent living resident, who has tested positive, continues to recover** while quarantined in that person's apartment and **106 independent living residents have tested negative**.

While a sense of hope and optimism fuels us to continue to do all we can to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we continue to mourn the passing of 13 residents who succumbed to the virus.

We are grateful that 168 employees tested negative for COVID-19. Thirty of our staff, who tested positive, have recovered and returned to work. We plan the return to work for all employees in accordance with CDC guidelines. And seven, who currently are positive, are at home while they recuperate.

At Smith Village, we carefully observe all HIPAA regulations. Please join us in respecting the privacy of every resident and staff member.

We remain vigilant about changes in conditions for residents and employees, and Smith Village continues to offer testing. If someone tests positive for the virus, we always communicate immediately with residents and their families as well as with employees when we receive a positive test result.

We are steadfast in our commitment to adhering to protocols and practices essential to abate COVID-19 and any related impact on the normal operations within our community. And we think it is important to share them with you.

As you know, Smith Village established an isolation unit for residents diagnosed positive with COVID-19. Also following recommendation of the CDC, CMS and local health authorities, our staff wears full-PPE, including gowns, masks, goggles and face shields, when inside this unit. Throughout our campus, all staff members wear universal face masks.

Smith Village screens all staff members before and during each shift; restricts all visitors; and continues to cancel all communal gatherings and field trips. These are just a few of the many guidelines we follow to protect the safety and well-being of all residents and staff members.

In addition to this weekly update, we distribute notices within 12 hours of learning about a new occurrence of the virus for a resident or staff member here as another way to comply with guidelines published by the Illinois Department of Public Health. Like this letter, these notices will include a resident's level of living and confirm appropriate actions were taken.

Please be confident the data we share is the most accurate and current. Due to timing, there may be some variances from weekly updates IDPH's website.

We remain true to our mission of caring for residents and express that dedication by adhering to all practices related to COVID-19 as directed by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Illinois Department of Public Health and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid.

We appreciate your using COVID19SmithVillage@SmithSeniorLiving.org to send us your questions and share your suggestions. A senior staff member then asks the appropriate staff member to contact you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marti Jatis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marti Jatis
Executive Director