



October 27, 2020

Dear Smith Village Family,

Our goal is to protect residents and staff members as well as their families during a time when Illinois has just reported the largest number of new cases of the virus in a single day.

The incidence of COVID-19 cases are escalating very significantly in our nearby neighborhoods and across Illinois. So now, it is more important than ever to tap into our collective spirit of resilience *if and when* Smith Village is directed by the Chicago and Illinois Departments of Public Health to adjust some of our daily activities.

***Good news about test results***

During the week of October 19, all 320 people, who were tested at Smith Village, received a negative test result. That group included 62 independent living residents, 58 assisted living residents and 23 skilled nursing care residents; 140 staff members; and 37 tradespeople and contractors working on our campus.

On Wednesday, October 28, we again will test all employees working in all areas of our community and all residents who live in our healthcare settings. If an independent resident would like to be tested, please call the Receptionist at extension 7300 and be prepared to share insurance information.

***Ways to spend more time together***

Good news for so many individuals, who were tested last week, also means we can prepare to carefully open up more areas of our community—during the first week of November—if all of this week’s tests have negative results.

For this week, however, we are staying the course and following our current practices.

***Dining program***

**For independent living residents**

- Dinner is delivered to residents’ apartments
- The Marketplace offers carryout for breakfast, lunch and dinner
- The Oak Room and Dining Room remain closed

**For Oakhaven assisted living residents**

- Breakfast, lunch and dinner are delivered to residents’ apartments

**For skilled nursing care residents**

- All meals are delivered to their rooms during the current phase of construction in the Johanson Wing and their services remain the same

***Amenities and programs***

- Salon services are suspended
- Small group activities including fitness classes are suspended

***Visits with residents***

This week, independent living residents can plan visits in their apartments and visit outdoors if they prefer. Assisted living residents only can visit outdoors on the patios or porch. And this is a reminder that all visits with skilled nursing care residents remain cancelled for now.

***Protecting everyone our highest priority***

While we ask everyone to consider forgoing a visit this week due to the higher positivity rate in our neighborhoods, we recognize some people still have a good reason to visit a resident. So, I am including our list of requirements for all visitors who are expected to arrive wearing their own mask. Your thoughtful compliance helps us reserve our PPE inventory for residents and staff members, if and when we may need it.

It is essential that all of us do our part to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by

- Wearing a mask, observing social distancing at all times, and following hand-hygiene and sanitation practices
- Following our current visitor guidelines including but not limited to
  - Scheduling one weekly visit between 10am and 7pm
  - Planning only two people from the same household for a single visit
  - Being screened when signing a visitation form at arrival
  - Going directly to the designated area to meet a resident
  - Not eating or drinking during any visit
  - Reporting any symptoms of COVID-19 experienced within 72 hours of a visit at Smith Crossing
- Quarantining for 14 days if an employee, resident and prospective visitor has visited any hot spot designated on Tuesdays by the City of Chicago

***Safety first***

We are faithful to following all of the directives by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Chicago and Illinois Departments of Public Health.

With so many outside threats and quickly changing circumstances about the presence of COVID-19 in our region, please feel free to ask questions and to propose suggestions. Write to [COVID19SmithVillage@SmithSeniorLiving.org](mailto:COVID19SmithVillage@SmithSeniorLiving.org). A senior staff member, who monitors your messages, will ask the appropriate employee to respond.

Very truly yours,



Marti Jatis  
Executive Director

PS With so many deliveries these days, please be thoughtful and return shopping carts to the storeroom behind the Reception Desk so they are readily available for the next person to use.

PPS Thank you again and again for accommodating disruptions in common areas and the parking lot. This week, you'll see many construction workers and tradespeople transforming Smith Village in ways that certainly will brighten our daily life very soon.