



November 3, 2020

Dear Smith Village Family,

The number of COVID-19 cases in our surrounding community is still present reason for concern. On Sunday, November 1, the positivity rate for the entire City of Chicago had risen to 9.5 percent, up from 7.6 percent seven days earlier.

During the last seven days, Illinois has seen more new cases than any other State. On Monday, November 2, the Illinois Department of Public Health confirmed 6,222 new cases of COVID-19. This steady climb to more than 6,000 new cases each day during the last five days exceeds the peak of Illinois' rapid increase in the number of new cases during the month of May.

All 11 Regions in the State of Illinois are now in Tier 1 mitigation status. Less than a week ago, Illinois averaged close to 4,500 cases a day.

Current plans for this week

To abate the spread of COVID-19 in our community, we ask anyone who suspects he or she may have symptoms to not visit our campus or to limit their exposure to fellow-residents and to alert staff members about how they are feeling.

Smith Village confirms the following changes for some amenities and programs for residents and their families.

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
- Select small group activities, with social distancing and other precautions, are planned, but others including fitness classes are suspended
- The Salon is closed
- Visitors, who may visit in residents' apartments, must be screened and only go directly to and from their destination

For Oakhaven assisted living residents

- Breakfast, lunch and dinner are delivered to residents' apartments
- Life Enrichment activities are planned for residents so they can participate in the hallway outside their apartment

- The Salon is closed
- Residents and their families, who will be screened, still can visit outdoors on the 112th Place porch and on the patios

For skilled nursing care residents

- All meals are delivered to their rooms during the current phase of construction in the Johanson Wing
- The Salon is closed
- Other programs and services remain the same
- Only outdoor visits by appointment and pre-screening are allowed this week. Please email Lisa Madsen for an appointment time at lmadsen@smithseniorliving.org

An increase in positive test results

Smith Village residents and staff members have tested positive for COVID-19 for the first time since the middle of June.

During the week of October 26, we tested 223 people. Five people—two residents and three staff members—received positive results for the virus. Here is a summary of these recent occurrences of COVID-19 which we have reported since October 29, as well as a report on the majority of people who received negative test results.

- One independent living resident received a positive test result for COVID-19 and nine had negative results
- One of 64 assisted living residents received a positive test result and 63 had negative results
- 25 skilled nursing care residents tested negative for the virus
- Three of 124 staff members—one each in Dining Services, Life Enrichment and Nursing—tested positive since October 26th; the remaining 121 had negative test results

We also think it may be helpful for you to have a summary of all eight positive cases—including two residents and six staff members by department—for whom we received positive test results during the month of October. Some employees have returned to work in accordance with CDC guidelines; others are recuperating at home.

- Two residents, one each for independent living and assisted living, are currently asymptomatic and recovering in their apartments
- Two members of the Administrative team

- Two CNAs
- One Dining Service employee
- One Life Enrichment staff member

On Wednesday, November 4, 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 to schedule a time.

Protecting everyone our highest priority

Again this week, we ask you to consider forgoing a visit due to the higher positivity rate in our neighborhoods, but we realize some people still have a good reason to visit a resident.

If you do plan a visit, please make sure you arrive wearing their own mask to help us maintain 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

Please be sure you are 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, we encourage you to ask questions and

to share suggestions. Write to COVID19SmithVillage@SmithSeniorLiving.org. A senior staff member, who monitors your messages, will ask the appropriate Smith Village employee to respond directly to you.

Very truly yours,

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

Marti Jatis

Executive Director