



February 23, 2021

Dear Smith Village Family,

With Illinois' lowest positivity rate since last July 2020, we continue to expand ways for residents to enjoy spending time with each other and with their families. If a new case occurs, we may have to scale back our plans.

While we await additional direction from the Illinois and Chicago Departments of Public Health, please stay true to our course of action which helps protect each of us from the virus.

Indoor family visits with safety first

Families of skilled nursing care residents should continue to ask Mary Beth O'Brien, MOBrien@smithseniorliving.org, to schedule visits in the Club Room. When guests arrive at the 113th Place entrance, the Receptionist will conduct our screening process. Mary Beth also is happy to set-up Facetime visits.

Independent living residents continue to welcome guests in their apartments.

We hope to announce indoor family visits for assisted living residents as soon as we receive these residents' results for their most recent tests.

We are pleased to learn several family members already are fully vaccinated. Still, even though residents and family members have this added protection, everyone still must comply with all our precautions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Dining rooms

Starting today, assisted living residents can enjoy breakfast, lunch and dinner in their Dining Room. The room is now set for social distancing and other precautions, and we have distributed a reservation schedule.

We are slowly increasing the capacity of the Dining Room for independent living residents so more people can enjoy more frequent meals together.

More amenities and activities

Residents' monthly calendars feature more in-person groups for 10 or fewer people. Salons are now open for skilled nursing care and independent living residents, who should make an appointment to ensure social distancing and other safety measures regarding the virus.



During this period of transition, we hope residents continue to tune into numerous programs and activities now shown on Channels 95 and 36.

Third and final clinic confirmed for Wednesday, March 10

On Thursday, March 4, Walgreens will confirm the hours for our half-day clinic the following Wednesday. We will communicate to all residents and staff members who are scheduled to receive their second dose of Moderna.

We thank everyone who has taken advantage of this important way to arm ourselves against COVID-19 in ways to help contain the spread of the virus.

Testing update

During the week of February 15, we administered 202 tests for the virus. We have received negative results for 40 skilled nursing care residents. This morning, our lab informed us that, most likely due to last week's snowstorms, the remainder of the tests never arrived at their destination so we are retesting assisted living residents and all staff members today and tomorrow.

Our new schedule continues this week with employees' weekly testing on Wednesdays and testing for residents in healthcare settings on Tuesdays.

Time of transition

While the number of cases in Illinois decrease, our nation honors the memory of the 500,000 people who have died as a result of contracting the virus. This one of the reasons we are proceeding with caution as we reopen more programs and places for everyone at Smith Village.

Please send to COVID19SmithVillage@SmithSeniorLiving.org any questions and suggestions you have to share with us.

Sincerely,



Marti Jatis
Executive Director