



Important Update re: COVID-19

from Gil Fonger, President & CEO

April 10, 2020, 5:00 p.m.

- **WASMOND CENTER RESIDENTS ON PRECAUTIONARY ISOLATION**

Three residents at the Marklund Wasmond Center (MWC) in Elgin are being placed in isolation as a precautionary measure on the advice of the center's medical director. The residents are presenting minor symptoms and the medical director suggested they be cared for as if they had coronavirus. He did not recommend testing.

However, we reached out to Cook County Public Health Department to inform them of the situation and get their recommendation regarding testing. They declined our request for testing and suggested we just isolate. So, out of an abundance of caution, we are going to test residents in-house and send the tests to a private lab; results will be returned in 7 to 10 days.

In the meantime, staff providing the care will follow protocol using the required PPEs (personal protective equipment) including N95 masks, disposable gowns and gloves.

In addition, we will continue to monitor all residents and staff at every shift change at the Wasmond Center and all Marklund locations, and are following the most up-to-date guidelines from IDPH (Illinois Department of Public Health) and the CDC with regard to care for residents and staff, and disinfecting of all facilities.

As a reminder: as of 4/2/2020 until further notice, all Marklund nurses, PSPs, housekeepers, house parents, and other staff providing resident care or services in resident rooms are to be wearing a facemask at all times, using the guidelines described in the new Extended Use of Procedure or Surgical Mask policy.

We will continue to keep you updated as needed.

Thank you,

GILBERT FONGER

President & CEO

Questions for Gil Fonger? Call him at 630-593-5476 or email gfonger@marklund.org.