



Important Update re: COVID-19

from Gil Fonger, President & CEO

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- **No Facility-based COVID cases / Surveillance testing continues:**

I am very pleased to report that we have not had any **facility-based** COVID-19 cases at any of our sites since Jan. 21! That is a great sign that our staff is being less affected due to the decrease in county-wide numbers and the increase in those in the area getting vaccinated. Each of our sites in Bloomingdale, Elgin and Geneva, is now down to doing once-a-week surveillance testing of staff. This lifts some of the burden from our nursing teams who have been champions in assisting with this procedure.

- **IDPH updates:**

Early next week, we will share information on any new changes to IDPH COVID-19 guidance, and how these changes will affect our policies and procedures. We are still on track for MWC to move into Phase 3 of the IDPH Long-Term Care Reopening Plan, on **March 1**, and for MHC and MPC to move into Phase 2 on **March 2**. Both of these phases allow for Virtual, Outdoor and Indoor visitation while Phase 3 allows residents to go on outings as long as social distancing can be maintained. Protocol for arranging visitation and outings will be determined by the site administrators. **Outdoor visits may be scheduled at all sites weather permitting.**

Vaccine clinics continue:

The Hyde Center and Wasmond Center held successful COVID vaccine clinics on the 12th and 15th of this month. To date, 100 staff have received both vaccinations, and 173 have received their first dose, along with nearly 100% of eligible residents. Along with those employees who got their vaccinations at outside sources, we are very close to having 65% of our full-time staff having been vaccinated—so far.

Next clinic dates are: **MPC: Feb. 25; MHC: March 5 and 26; MWC: March 8 and 29**, and we are hopeful to see more staff sign up. Studies are showing that the vaccine is very effective at preventing serious illness/hospitalization and deaths from the COVID-19 virus.

Changes to Marklund's Temporary Modified Absence Policy

Last Wednesday, all staff learned of updates to the **Travel/Quarantine/Testing requirements found in the Modified Temporary Absence Policy**. Basically, staff who travel domestically out of Illinois must receive a negative rapid test and have no COVID-like symptoms prior to returning to work, and will no longer need to quarantine after travel. Those who travel internationally still must quarantine. Employees can refer to the policy sent an email sent from Marie Loiacono, Director of Human Resources.

Regards,

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CURRENT STATUS PER SITE

	MHH	MVH	MSH	MTH	MDH	MRH	MPC	MWC
CMS (IDPH) Phase	1 <i>starting 2/17/21</i>	1 <i>starting 2/16/21</i>						
IDPH Mitigation Tier	n/a							
Visitation	Outdoor & Virtual	Indoor, Outdoor &						
Current* Positive Residents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current* Positive Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rounds of Testing to be completed	0 Surveillance Testing							

**indicates resident or staff member currently isolating for COVID*

^not a facility-based case