



September 4, 2020

Dear Residents and Family,

It seems we've seen more COVID-19 activity in August than the last 4 months combined. I am thankful for the hard and thoughtful work the team here at Brewster completed to prepare us for weeks such as these. I am continuously awed by the way our team never ceases their efforts to improve existing systems as they constantly scan and prepare for future needs.

Two of the three residents who tested positive for COVID were cared for in our COVID isolation neighborhood. They were released from that neighborhood last week after 14 days in isolation precautions. One was admitted to the hospital for additional treatment. I am saddened to report that one of these residents passed away this week after presenting with few if any symptoms of COVID-19.

On August 30, I reported that one resident in Assisted Living tested positive for COVID-19 while in the hospital. Since that letter, we have tested all Assisted Living residents and staff. We identified one staff person who tested positive. No additional residents tested positive. The resident who initially tested positive has remained in the hospital during this time.

The trend of this most recent wave of viral spread in Shawnee County appears to be leveling off, but we remain on high alert for staff, residents, and visitors who have any COVID-like symptoms, exposure, or travel risks. Please pay careful attention to your individual health. This virus can present with very minor and very common symptoms that appear as allergies, slight loss of energy, or upset stomach, among many others. It is very easy to overlook these symptoms if you're not watching closely.

As a reminder, Shawnee County ordered all nursing homes and assisted living residences in the county to revert to the Red Phase, based on the high rate of spread in the broader Topeka community. Please visit our website for more details on the different phases of COVID interventions. Thank you.

Joe Ewert
President and CEO