



November 10, 2020

We have been conducting broad based testing in the Brewster Health Center (BHC) continuously since October 7. We have been testing BHC staff and residents every three to five days. I am pleased to announce we officially have no active cases of COVID-19 among the residents in BHC. We do continue to identify new positive cases among staff that do not appear to be connected to others on campus.

I was notified today that one Independent Living resident has tested positive.

Shawnee County's seven day average hit 86 new cases per day this week (roughly four times the rate we saw during the second largest outbreak in Shawnee County). The county transmission rate is now in the "UNCONTROLLED" category.

**After careful consideration, I have determined it is proper at this time to implement interventions across campus to mitigate the risks of the virus being transmitted at Brewster.**

#### **ACTIVITIES**

- All in-person group activities are canceled until November 30. We do not want groups to congregate at this time.
- Exercise classes are canceled. Please watch BPTV 1960 for video classes.
- Aquatic swim classes are canceled.
- Art classes are canceled.
- Vespers services are canceled.
- Resident and non-resident groups may not meet on campus at this time. This includes card games, game nights and other gatherings in public spaces.

#### **DINING**

- Beginning November 12, all dining venues will be closed. This includes Greenleaf at Redwood, The Evergreens Grill, The Market and the Brewster Bean.
- Redwood residents will receive menus on your door to fill out as in the past.
- All other Independent Living residents can call Redwood Dining at 274-3340 or The Evergreens Grill at 274-3359 to order a meal.
- Meal delivery is free at this time.
- The Thanksgiving meal in the dining rooms has been canceled. We will have a special Thanksgiving meal that can be delivered to your room – your family may not dine with you. You are free to go to with your family, but please be very careful about wearing a mask and taking precautions.

## EVENTS

- The **Bazaar** will continue Thursday and Friday as planned with reduced capacity in the Klinge Activity Center and strict social distancing enforced.
- **Topeka Symphony Orchestra Concert** livestream on Saturday is canceled.

## GUESTS

- Guests continue to be welcomed.
- Visitors must remain in resident homes only.
- Guests must be screened and wear a face covering at all times, even inside resident homes.
- If a reservation for a guest room has already been made, those will continue. We will not be taking any new reservations at this time.

## PUBLIC SPACES

- The wellness centers, aquatic center, art studios, woodshop and chapel will remain open for individual use. All areas are limited to two people at a time.
- Public spaces are not available for resident or family groups at this time.

## SALONS

- Salons at Main Street and The Evergreens will remain open.

## TRANSPORTATION

- Transportation to doctor and dental appointments will continue. Please call 274-3320 for reservations at least 24 hours in advance.
- Personal shopping will continue. Please call Transportation at 274-3320.
- Other off-campus transportation will not occur at this time.

Now is the time to practice exceptional care and discipline to avoid contracting and transmitting COVID-19. I strongly encourage everyone to limit their exposure and avoid gathering in groups. Face coverings remain mandatory for traveling indoors of any Brewster building. Please be aware Brewster staff have been instructed to enforce the wearing of face coverings. Most importantly, wash your hands frequently, use hand sanitizer liberally when soap and water are not immediately available, and avoid touching your face without first assuring your hands are free of germs.

Brewster operations are in the following categories:

- **Brewster Health Center** operations will continue in the Red Phase.
- **Assisted Living** will remain in the Yellow Phase.

Joe Ewert  
President and CEO