



August 2, 2021

Dear Residents and Family,

As of today, we have three residents in independent living who are positive for COVID-19. All three residents are fully vaccinated and presenting with cold like symptoms. We tested 27 additional people based on the contact tracing completed on the positive cases. All of those tested are negative for COVID-19.

We have identified one staff person at Brewster Health Center who has tested positive this week. This person is asymptomatic and did not catch the virus at work. Contact tracing is complete and those individuals with contact have been contacted and will be tested.

The positivity rate in Shawnee County is growing rapidly. Our own surveillance of residents, staff, family members and others who access campus reflect this recent growth in overall cases. I anticipate we will continue to identify positive cases moving forward. Due to the vaccines, I expect the severity of illness this year to be dramatically lower than we experienced last year.

We seek to create as safe an environment for residents as possible using the least restrictive methods possible. We are not restricting families or guests in independent living nor do we have intent to do so. Our goal is to keep our Health Center and Assisted Living open to family and guests as well, however these areas operate under strict regulatory direction from various local, state, and federal authorities and these authorities could restrict visitation to these residents in response to positive cases. Please help us protect our Health Center and Assisted Living residents and their ability to be with family and loved ones.

Please wear a mask while indoors and assure your guests do as well. We will continue wearing masks while there is active transmission on campus. Please wash your hands frequently and most importantly please monitor yourself for symptoms. COVID-19 is easily mistaken for general muscle soreness or fatigue, and other cold and allergy like symptoms. **PLEASE STAY HOME if you feel any signs or symptoms of illness and call our Community Health Nurse at 785-274-3342** so we can assure the proper care and organizational response.

Thank you.

Joe Ewert
President and CEO