



Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Dear Residents,

We are now on day 8 of our COVID-19 outbreak in Penrose Harbor Skilled Nursing. Somehow it seems that it has been much longer. We have almost completed all of our testing scheduled for today. We have the night shift remaining and I'll update you on those results tomorrow. I am relieved to report that within Assisted Living and The Lighthouse, there are still no positive cases in staff or residents. Our Independent Living residents that were quarantined due to an exposure in the days before the outbreak was discovered have all tested negative and completed their quarantine. We have two Independent Living residents who have tested positive who are still in their quarantine period.

The outbreak continues to be confined to Skilled Nursing. However, I am deeply saddened to report that we have identified 4 additional skilled nursing residents and 4 additional staff members who have tested positive today. That brings our total positive cases to:

- **Residents currently residing within Independent Living**
total: 2 | with symptoms: 0 | without symptoms at this time: 2
- **Residents currently residing within Penrose Harbor Skilled Nursing**
total: 13 (up from 8 yesterday) | with symptoms: 4 | without symptoms at this time: 9
- **Penrose Harbor staff recovering at home**
total: 9 (up from 5 yesterday) | with symptoms: 2 | without symptoms at this time: 6
- **COVID-19-positive residents who have passed away: 1**

We have been in close contact with Tacoma-Pierce County Public Health today regarding our additional cases. We reviewed all our infection control protocols with Public Health again today and they have no additional recommendations for us. The Public Health Infection Control Nurse liaison for our facility remarked to Tristan, our Health Services Administrator, "you are doing everything you can do, this virus is spreading everywhere now."

These are sobering words from our Local Public Health Jurisdiction. Our next scheduled testing day is Tuesday, December 7th at which time all staff and residents of Penrose Harbor will be tested again. We are unable to test all of our Heron's Key staff members due to the test kit shortage that has occurred because of high public demand. We will be evaluating and prioritizing testing based on job roles and contact with independent living residents. I'm expecting a new shipment of test kits to arrive later this week.

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I want to take this opportunity to applaud our Skilled Nursing staff who have been on the frontlines of this crisis: our nurses, nursing assistants, Life Enrichment team, dietary team members, environmental services staff, therapy team, and our dedicated Health Services Administrative team. All of these departments have identified dedicated COVID unit team members who will only be working in Skilled Nursing through the duration of this outbreak. COVID unit team members will not be crossing over to any other area of Penrose Harbor or our Heron's Key campus. These team members are truly health care heroes and epitomize our mission to provide the highest quality of care to the residents we serve. I am grateful for the service of each and every one.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Amy".

Executive Director