



July 7, 2020

Dear Smith Crossing Family,

We have now received all of the results—which are negative—for close to 300 residents and staff members who were tested two weeks ago. Last week, we tested almost 250 resident in skilled nursing care, memory care and assisted living as well as all employees. We are awaiting those results this week.

The assisted living resident, who had tested positive, was included in our recent testing schedule and that test result is one of the few we are waiting to receive. The person's status remains positive until receiving two consecutive negatives test results.

As we have increased the number of consecutive days to more than 28 *without two or more new incidences of the virus*, we will test residents monthly and employees bi-weekly. As a first step, Smith Crossing is not required by the Will County Department of Public Health to conduct testing for COVID-19 this week.

Of course, we will administer a test for the virus to any resident or staff member who requests it. By doing so, we meet all the requirements of both Will County Department of Public Health and IDPH.

Summertime at Smith Crossing

It is gratifying to see so many residents and their families visiting outdoors. And it brightens our day to see so many residents enjoying outdoor entertainment across our campus.

This is just a reminder that everyone must comply with our safety rules including wearing a face mask that covers a person's nose, observing six-foot social distancing, washing hands, limiting all groups to fewer than 10.

The Oak Room's popular grab-and-go libations and casual menu program continues on Wednesdays from 3 until 6pm. Now, our Resident Council is collaborating with us to devise a three-phase strategic plan for indoor and outdoor dining. We appreciate your flexibility as we determine the best way to seat a portion of these dining areas while observing social distancing and to wearing a mask before and after meals.

We also are establishing systems for all necessary precautions so Smith Crossing can offer more groups of 10 or fewer fitness classes, educational programs and movies in the theater. All of these expanded programs require our independent living community remains free of COVID-19.

In addition, we are pleased to announce Marquette Bank returns to Smith Crossing on Wednesday, July 15. Look for more details on Channel 36. This week, we will experiment with offering our first bus trip for essential shopping by calling me at 708-326-2326.

Families of skilled nursing care and assisted living residents, please call Mary DePaolo at 708-326-2305. She will ask you questions about your possible symptoms for the virus and arrange a time for your visit.

Please remember

- There are no drop-in visitations at this time
- Our building remains closed to everyone except residents and staff

Based on CDC's recommendations, Smith Crossing recommends residents continue to rely on televised religious services.

We value the guidance provided by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Illinois and Will County Departments of Public Health, and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services as we establish new reopening protocols. Our goal is to provide more opportunities for residents to enjoy each other's company and to spend more time with their families.

We know that following all the precautions prescribed by these agencies ensures ultimate peace of mind for our entire Smith Crossing family. So, we follow best practices including

- Screening all staff members before and during each shift
- Restricting all visitors from spending time in our building
- Limiting all gatherings to fewer than 10 people

Please write to COVID19SmithCrossing@SmithSeniorLiving.org so our senior staff member, who monitors your questions, ideas and suggestions, can ask our appropriate colleague to respond to you.

I know all of us miss the fabulous Smith Crossing way of life that we all know and love. My staff and I share your frustrations with our incremental plans as we reopen Smith Crossing's campus.

While the State of Illinois has moved into Phase 4, our community is more cautious because we are making decisions to keep you safe and healthy.

Please be patient and know we not only are doing what is best to abate COVID-19 at Smith Crossing but also to comply with numerous, ever-changing health agencies' rules and regulations.

Very truly yours,

Amanda Mauceri

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Executive Director