



July 28, 2020

Dear Smith Crossing Family,

At this time, no resident or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19.

Today and on Wednesday, Smith Crossing will test all assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing care residents according to our new monthly schedule and all employees, who care for these residents, according to our new weekly schedule now required by the Will County Department of Public Health.

In addition, I am very pleased to report our one assisted living resident, who had tested positive, has received two consecutive negative test results and now can rejoin our community activities and programs.

***New calendars expand ways to socialize***

Because more people are dining in the IL Dining Room, we encourage you to enjoy a meal under the newly installed tent on our outdoor Patio.

Our Life Enrichment team is preparing calendars listing more activities and programs for 10 or fewer people. Please be sure to reserve a place for those that interest you. All of these expanded programs require our independent living community remains free of COVID-19.

***Outdoor visits brighten the day for everyone***

We remain committed to making outdoor family visits enjoyable and safe by minimizing all contact with possible sources of the virus.

For assistance with scheduling outdoor visits with skilled nursing care and assisted living residents, please call Mary DePaola at 708-326-2305.

***Your precautions keep the virus at bay***

As we spend more time together, it is more important than ever to be comply with three basic precautions in all situations. Honor six-foot social distancing, practice hand-hygiene and wear a face mask.

As you already know, Smith Crossing screens all staff members before and after their shift. No visitors, including family members, are allowed inside our building. The only exceptions are residents and staff members as well as rare exceptions, namely for end of life visits.

As you know, we are using the City of Chicago's list of "hot spots" with a spike in cases of COVID-19 to determine who is required self-quarantine for 14 days

if someone visits these destinations. Today, Wisconsin, Missouri, North Dakota and Nebraska were added to this list now totaling 22 States. This restriction applies to employees, visitors and residents. View the current list of States at <https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid-19/home/emergency-travel-order.html>

We adhere to CDC guidelines recommending all residents only leave Smith Crossing for necessary medical appointments. If it is necessary for residents to schedule an appointment and they comply with our three key precautions regarding COVID-19, they will not be required to isolate for 14 days.

We adhere to all guidelines published by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Illinois and Will County Departments of Public Health, and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. For now, going to church, to a restaurant or to your family's home is not allowed. Please rely on televised religious services.

### ***Nursing students return to our campus***

This week, Joliet Junior College nursing students are starting their clinical rotations at Smith Crossing. All students tested negative for COVID-19 and are monitored just like we monitor our employees. We are delighted JJC regards our community as its top choice for preparing students for their careers in healthcare.

### ***Please share your ideas***

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

We are pleased so many more residents are taking advantage of ways to enjoy companionship and to pursue activities that interest them.

Just like the State of Illinois, Smith Crossing continues to monitor all facets of the challenges presented by COVID-19 and adjusts our plans for a more robust community life accordingly.

Sincerely,

*Amanda Mauceri*

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Executive Director