



October 6, 2020

Dear Smith Crossing Family,

As we cherish spending more time together with each other and with our families, it is essential all of us continue to adhere to all Smith Crossing's safety precautions to ensure we abate the spread of COVID-19.

While the majority of residents and their guests do comply, some need to be more mindful of following these important practices

- Schedule in advance all visits with all residents
- Arrive on time for visits with residents
- Wear a face mask that covers your mouth and nose at all times
- Observe six-foot social distancing everywhere
- Use hand-sanitation stations near areas for visiting
- Clean your visitation area using spray provided at end of a visit

Testing update

One EVS employee, who had become symptomatic and arranged to be tested on Saturday, October 3, received a positive test result today. When this person was on campus on Friday, the employee was not in any residents' apartments or common areas. This individual is recuperating at home.

During the week of September 28, Smith Crossing tested 178 staff members and eight Joliet Junior College nursing students, who are completing their clinical practicums here.

Thanks to the fact no resident has contracted a case of the virus since Saturday, August 1, residents now are tested monthly. Still we test residents, who are planning to move to another setting in our community, and those who move into Smith Crossing. All 19 of these residents received negative results for tests taken last week.

On Wednesday, October 7, employees working in our healthcare settings will be tested for COVID-19 and receive their flu shots. Residents, who live in our healthcare settings, now will be tested monthly.

Only outdoor visitations

Effective Wednesday, October 7, Smith Crossing is required to temporarily suspend indoor visits for all residents during the next 14 days due to this new case of the virus. This pause will be lifted on Friday, October 16—calculated from the first day of the onset of symptoms for our staff member—if there no other new cases of COVID-19 during the next two weeks.

We ask all residents and their families to take advantage of pleasant weather—forecast at least until next Tuesday—to visit outdoors only once each week between 10am and 7pm due to space limitations. Please follow these guidelines including but not limited to

- Planning only two people from the same household for a single visit
- Being screened when signing a visitation form at arrival and checking out at the reception desk at the end of a visit
- Going directly to the designated common area to meet a resident
- Not eating or drinking during any visit

- Reporting any symptoms of COVID-19 experienced within 72 hours of a visit at Smith Crossing

Smith Crossing requires employees, residents and prospective visitors, who visit hot spots designated by the City of Chicago, to self-quarantine for 14 days. On Tuesdays, the City announces the States and Territories with a considerable increase in the number of new cases of COVID-19.

More plans for independent living residents

Even with the occurrence of a new case of the virus, we can proceed with more plans. We are expanding seating in the dining room to 25 percent of its capacity, providing more places for residents. Please make reservations at the IL reception desk. If you are on a waiting list, you'll be notified of an opening.

Mark your calendar to join our Oktoberfest on Tuesday, October 13. And on Monday, October 19, Smith Crossing will host a celebration for residents born this month with a private seating in the dining room. Plans also are in-the-works for creating a Halloween meal that's a treat, serving Sunday brunch and moving Happy Hour to Community Hall as weather gets chillier.

In response to residents' requests, we are sending our current visitation guidelines it to those who registered to receive emails from us. If you have not yet registered, do so at COVID19SmithCrossing@SmithSeniorLiving.org. Please use this e-address to share your suggestions and ask questions. You can count on a prompt response from the appropriate staff member.

Community

At Smith Crossing, we clearly value how our shared journey and values that unite us. We are blessed that our community spirit motivates us to move forward together as we rediscover the joys of being our Smith Crossing family.

Very truly yours,

Amanda Mauceri

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Executive Director