

# Coronavirus Update, Tuesday, August 4

Good Samaritan Center continues to address positive cases of coronavirus among the residents and staff. To date there are four confirmed cases of the virus among the GSC residents, one in the hospital and 3 remaining at GSC. These residents are isolated in a separate area and with staff dedicated to only that unit.

All GSC residents were tested earlier in July and all those tests came back negative. On August 3, the Department of Health retested every resident. We expect results in 3 to 5 days.

GSC and Dacier Manor continue to be tested every two weeks. The results from the most recent tests show that regrettably, 10 additional staff members tested positive. They are isolating at home and will not be able to return to work until cleared.

The Department of Health has been working closely with the staff during this challenging time. Moreover, a team from the VA has been assigned to GSC to provide additional support. We are grateful for this extra assistance, and they are helping to ensure that quality, loving care continues for those we serve.

As previously reported, two residents in independent living have tested positive for COVID-19. Both of individuals remain in the hospital.

Out of an abundance of caution, several residents who have had close contact with known positive cases have been asked to self-quarantine. To date, none of these individuals are exhibiting symptoms of the virus.

At the present time, one employee in independent living is out because of a positive COVID-19 test. Several other employees have been asked to self-isolate due to close contact with a person who has contracted the virus. None of these individuals will be allowed to return to work until cleared.

As we see an increase in cases on campus, we remind everyone that rumors are not helpful. Our goal has been to keep the community informed through these updates and we will continue that effort. Please understand that not everyone admitted to the hospital has COVID-19.

Staff is required to take precautions and we ask that members do too. Wear a mask. They are required to enter certain facilities, and to participate in any activities and many services like Village transportation. Masks must cover mouth and nose. Also, maintain appropriate distances, wash your hands often and clean surfaces with a disinfectant.

The virus remains very prevalent in the communities around us. To date there have been 1,203 known cases of COVID-19 in Suwannee County since March. That is an increase of 121 cases since our update last Thursday. Please be vigilant anytime you are out of your home, whether on campus or away from Dowling Park.

We continue to encourage you to remain in your home as much as possible, especially if you have underlying health issues. Do not feel you need to participate in any activities but if you do, you must abide by the restrictions that have been put in place. Take-out options remain available at the dining room and the Village Grocer and Village Pharmacy deliver. The facilities remain closed to nonmembers.

Sadly, the virus is here, but if you continue to take precautions and follow the guidelines that have been put in place, you can reduce your risk substantially. Our success relies upon us all. Your actions not only help you but your neighbors too.

Please know that we will continue to work hard to address these issues while relying upon our loving Heavenly Father to see us through. Please continue to lift up this community and those infected with this virus in your prayers.

For questions about your particular situation, contact your Service Coordinator.

During this time of increased cases, we will do updates on Tuesdays and Fridays. The next scheduled update will be Friday August 7.