

Coronavirus Update, Friday, January 15

Good Samaritan continues its mandatory testing based upon the positivity rate for Suwannee County. Currently 3 employees are out because of positive tests. They will not be able to return to work until cleared. The residents were retested this week and the results should be received later today. We know of no cases of the virus among the residents of Good Samaritan Center.

Likewise, we know of no cases of the virus among the members or staff at Dacier Manor.

Plans are being made for the second round of the vaccine for the residents and staff of Good Samaritan Center. A second release form is required for each participant, so staff is working with the families to complete this paperwork. For questions about the process, please call 658-5550.

Preparations continue for the vaccination of Dacier Manor and Independent Living. Right now, we are scheduled to receive the vaccine next week, January 21 and 22. Release forms are required and Dacier Manor staff and Service Coordinators have been working with members to ensure that those who want the vaccine will have the opportunity to receive it. On Tuesday January 19, Service Coordinators will begin following up with those who have registered to receive the vaccine to provide detailed instructions on the vaccination process. Staff will also have the opportunity to be vaccinated at the same time.

We continue to see an increase in cases among the members and staff in independent living. Currently, there are 10 members who have either tested positive or been exposed to a positive case. Each of these individuals is isolating until cleared by health officials. There are also 13 employees who are out because of 1) a positive test, 2) awaiting the results of a test due to symptoms, or 3) they have had close contact with a known positive case. Each of these individuals is being monitored and will not be able to return to work until cleared.

Due to the rise in cases, we have temporarily suspended group activities and placed additional limitations on visitors to the campus. Dine-in services are suspended, but carryout service remains available at Rumph Dining Room and the Lopin Gopher Deli. For detailed information on these suspensions and restrictions, please see the Friendly Neighbor News.

Even with the vaccine coming, now is not the time to relax and let our guard down. Locally and statewide, the virus continues to spike. There have been 198 new cases in Suwannee County since our last update for a total since March of 4,509.

We encourage you to limit travel and exposure but if you must go out, please wear a mask, maintain appropriate distances and wash your hands often. We remain in this together. There is reason for optimism but we must remain vigilant. For questions about your situation, please contact your Service Coordinator.

The next update is scheduled for Friday, January 22.