

Date: December 11, 2020
To: Augsburg Residents, Families and Team Members
From: Cyndi Walters, Interim Executive Director
Subject: Path Forward Community Update



THE VILLAGE AT
AUGSBURG
A National Lutheran Community



In this week's COVID-19 testing, two team members tested positive for the virus. Neither of these team members have been in the building since before Thanksgiving. Additionally, one independent living resident tested positive. This individual knows where they were exposed and has been quarantined.

We have made the decision to once again implement a COVID-19 dashboard, which has been simplified to show the current number of cases. The data on the dashboard is

current as of today. We are still hopeful with the proactive infection control measures we have taken, any positive cases will continue to be sporadic rather than result in a larger outbreak. The dashboard can be accessed here: <https://www.thevillageataugsburg.org/path-forward/covid-19-dashboard/>.

I wanted to share the exciting news that next week we will have a new Executive Director joining the Augsburg team. Rusty Mitchell (pictured above) joins us from another local long-term care community and brings over 20 years of experience in the senior living setting. Of note, the community he is currently with recently went through an affiliation process similar to the one between National Lutheran Communities & Services and The Village at Augsburg. He is has already been joining in on meetings and is very eager to meet all team members, residents and their families.

While Rusty completes the onboarding and orientation process, I will still be very much involved in the day-to-day. Even after I have stepped out of the everyday at Augsburg, as NLCS' Chief Operating Officer, I will remain involved in the happenings at Augsburg, walking alongside Rusty and our leadership team. I am very excited to have Rusty join this team. While I did not expect to be in the interim role this long and we have had some significant hiccups along the way, I have to believe that all the barriers have brought us the right person for this time. Please join me in welcoming him to the Augsburg family.

As we have navigated new cases of COVID-19 over the past few weeks, we have received many questions about dropping off food for a loved one and wanted to reiterate our guidelines for this. As a reminder, we have to be stringent on what is brought into the community due to regulations. Skilled nursing and assisted living residents may only receive packaged, non-refrigerated items. If there is an item your loved one would like and it needs refrigeration or is not packed, please let us know and we can talk with our dining team about what is available.

MEMORANDUM

Additionally, as the holidays near, we can accept items and gifts dropped off for your loved ones. The only items we cannot accept are perishable or homemade food items. Residents can receive flowers as well.

Our number one priority remains the health and safety of everyone at Augsburg, which requires a team effort. I know we are all tired of living the way we have since March. We know there is a light at the end of the tunnel with the vaccine on the horizon; however, we continue to see a surge in COVID-19 cases higher than they have ever been. I ask everyone to remain diligent in their infection control efforts, both inside and outside of our community. Most importantly, wearing a mask whenever you are in public or around anyone who lives outside of your household. It is also important to continue regularly washing your hands for at least 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol, regularly disinfecting high-touch surfaces and avoiding touching your face. If you start to feel unwell, even if you do not think it is COVID-19, please stay home. Monitor for any symptoms of the virus including shortness of breath, coughing, a fever, congestion, runny nose, nausea, diarrhea and loss of smell or taste.

To schedule a virtual or glass door visit with a loved one visit:

Assisted Living: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/assistedlivingvisits>

Skilled Nursing: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/tvaafamilysignup>

All our updates can be found online at www.thevillageataugsburg.org/pathforward.

As always, we are grateful for your patience and prayers during this time.