

Date: December 4, 2020
To: Augsburg AL Residents and Families
From: Tina Minio, Independent Living
Manager
Subject: Path Forward Community Update



THE VILLAGE AT
AUGSBURG
A National Lutheran Community

Late last night we learned two independent living residents have tested positive for COVID-19. One of these residents was aware of a possible exposure and was proactively quarantining in their apartment. We are contact tracing to determine anyone the other resident may have had direct contact with. We will continue to test all independent living residents weekly until we have two weeks with no positive cases in either residents or team members.

With two positive cases, unfortunately, we have to revert to pre phase one protocols. We are suspending in-person activities and the salon and dining room will be closed until further notice. We ask everyone continue to limit the number of individuals in common areas and remain masked and at least six feet apart from people not in your household. We also need to limit visitors to essential visits only. We will also continue to disinfect common areas regularly.

We ask all residents self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19, including taking your temperature. If you would like assistance with your temperature or checking your pulse ox, our concierge will be able to assist. The full list of symptoms to monitor for include a fever, cough, new loss of taste or smell, chills or body aches, congestion, runny nose, nausea or diarrhea.

While this is disappointing, it is also expected with the way cases are surging across the country. We believe if we can all stay vigilant in the practices we know slow the spread of the virus. Most importantly, wear your mask, ensuring it covers both your mouth and nose. In addition, be sure you are washing your hands regularly and practicing social distancing.

We have begun to receive information on a COVID-19 vaccination. The Village at Augsburg has made the choice to work in partnership with Walgreens for the vaccination. Walgreens is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and will be the team administering the vaccination. At this time, we know from the news media there are three vaccines that are performing well. We are not yet sure of which will become available to us. However, when we have this information, we will make it available to all residents, team members and resident's families.

At this time, we are not requiring the vaccination but we highly recommend it. It is likely it will receive initial emergency approval from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

We understand many are unsure if receiving a vaccine for COVID-19 is a safe decision. Our recommendation to get the vaccination is based on the appropriate approvals and recommendations from infectious disease experts. As we know more about the specific vaccine, we will send out more information and our team will be available to answer questions.

Our partnership with Walgreens will allow them to set up three clinics. Most of the vaccines in trial require two doses at least 21-28 days apart (we are unsure of the dates yet but will make them available as soon as we have them). Walgreens is also following the same prevention practices our community is: utilizing personal protective equipment,

MEMORANDUM

observing social distance, washing hands regularly, conducting symptom screenings, testing employees regularly and disinfecting high-touch surfaces. Additionally, the Walgreens and Augsburg teams will observe each resident for fifteen minutes after the vaccine to ensure there is no negative reaction. The CDC has said participants need to be aware they may feel unwell in the days following the vaccination including arm soreness, body aches and possibly a fever. This does not mean the vaccination gives you COVID-19, the body reacts with an immune response to the vaccination, which creates these reactions. However, as is the case with many medicines and vaccines, experts agree the benefits of the vaccine far outweighs the side effects associated with it. If you choose to decline the vaccine in the first round, it is unclear when it will become available again, as the goal is to vaccinate as many people as possible across the country.

As part of the process, all residents who wish to receive a vaccine need to fill out the attached form (our team can assist residents who may have a challenge with this). If the resident is in our health care center at the time we are requesting this form, the form will also need to be signed by their Power of Attorney. Any resident declining the vaccination will need to fill out the attached declination form. **Please return completed forms to Tina Minio at tstrayernio@thevillageataugsburg.org.**

We know this is a lot of information to take in and we will make more specific information on the vaccine that will be used available as soon as it is made available to us.

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