



November 4, 2021

Dear Residents, Family, Friends & Staff,

Summary of Changes Since Last Notice: We are reporting one (1) Staff member with a confirmed positive PCR covid-19 test. This brings our total active cases two (2). The facility has had a cumulative total of forty-three staff (43) and twelve (12) Resident confirmed Covid-19 cases associated with the facility to date. The staff member has been placed on medical leave and removed from the schedule upon notification to minimize exposure risk to other Residents/Staff and will remain on medical leave until they meet the mandated criteria to return to work.

Action Plan: Our action plan will mirror revised state and local guidance. Zero (0) Residents were identified as close contacts therefore there will be no outbreak testing for Residents. Unvaccinated staff are required to be tested twice a week and we will continue voluntary surveillance monitoring of vaccinated staff weekly. Any subsequent positive test results will be communicated.

Contact us with questions: If you have any questions about COVID-19 or the steps that we are taking to protect our residents, please contact Scot Harmon, Administrator, at 513-842-0774, sharmon@beechwoodhome.com .

Sincerely,

Scot Harmon, Administrator & Patricia A. Clark, DM, CEO, Administrator

November 5, 2021

Residents/Family/Friends/Staff,

Federal Vaccine Mandates: Recently two federal vaccine mandates went into effective, managed by OSHA and CMS. Our facility falls under the order from CMS (Center for Medicare Medicaid Services) and impacts all healthcare organizations in the country that participate in the Medicare and/or Medicaid insurance programs. Due to the complexity of this topic, our team is currently gathering information and attending meetings held by industry leaders to fully understand how the scope of this mandate will be implemented and assessing the potential impact it will have on our operations. We expect to be able to provide detailed information about this topic next week.

Vaccine Clinic: Our next vaccine clinic will be held on November 22. Please contact Scot Harmon or Beth Hils if you are interested in starting a Moderna vaccine series.

Hamilton County's positivity rate has decreased to 6.24% through the week of 10/26. This is a 0.95% decrease over last week's reported positivity rate through 10/19

Stay Diligent: It is a relief to see the local positivity rate fall recently, however it is important to remember that Covid has a history of coming back in waves that are often worse than before. Our recent memory illustrates how the Delta variant impacted our country in a profound way at a time of the year when respiratory illnesses are historically not a concern. Until the WHO officially downgrades Covid from a pandemic (which encompasses the entire globe) it is important to maintain infection control practices to keep those you love safe especially when the temperatures start to drop, and people begin to spend more time inside.

As always if you have any questions/comments/concerns please contact me, Scot Harmon (Administrator) or Patricia Clark (CEO).

November 12, 2021

Residents/Family/Friends/Staff,

Federal Vaccine Mandates:

- Effective on November 5,2021,CMS issued an emergency Health Care Vaccination Rule for the healthcare sector including long-term care facilities such as Beechwood Home. The purpose of this rule is to ensure safety and protection from COV ID-19 for all residents and staff.
- This vaccination mandate requires all Beechwood staff, volunteers and contractors to receive their first dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or single-dose J&J vaccine, no later than December 5,2021. If choosing the Pfizer or Moderna option, all Beechwood staff and contractors must complete the vaccination series (the second dose) no later than January 4,2022.
- To avoid any confusion, you may have heard through the media about the OSHA vaccine mandate that applies to companies with 100 or more employees that allows for a testing accommodation for those not willing to receive the vaccine. The CMS vaccine mandate that applies to the healthcare industry does not provide for this sort of accommodation based on the frailty of the individuals we serve.
- This mandate will allow for medical or religious exemptions for staff who have a bona fide medical reason not to be vaccinated and for employees with a sincerely held religious belief. Per the CMS rule, employees who do not comply with the mandate by December 5,2021,must be removed from the schedule resulting in separation of employment.
- Preparations for Staffing Loss: Anticipating a mandate of this scope for some time, the facility has strategically put into place measures to prepare for this scenario.
- We proactively put the admission process on hold and our census which typically hovers around full capacity (80) is now 72. With less Residents to care for 24/7,we require less Staff.
- Our HR department has only selected applicants who are either already fully vaccinated or open to vaccination for the hiring process since the summer. This ensures that our new hires will be retained despite this mandate as they have already met the qualifications.
- we are in communication with our unvaccinated staff members to answer their questions/provide information from reputable sources regarding the covid vaccines available to date and providing convenient opportunities for vaccination while at work.
- We sincerely appreciate those staff members who are electing not to get vaccinated for communicating this personal decision to us in advance so that our HR department can begin the recruitment process.

Vaccine Clinic: Our next vaccine clinic will be held on November 22nd. Please contact Scot Harmon or Beth Hils if you are interested in starting a Moderna vaccine series.

Hamilton County's positivity rate has decreased to 5.96% through the week of 11/02. This is a 0.28% decrease over last week's reported positivity rate through 10/26.

As always if you have any questions/comments/concerns please contact Heather Hefren, Scot Harmon (Administrator) or Patricia Clark (CEO).

November 15, 2021

Dear Residents/Family/Friends/Staff,

Summary of Changes Since Last Notice: We are reporting one (1) Staff member with a confirmed positive PCR covid-19 test. This brings our total active cases to one (1). The facility has had a cumulative total of forty-four staff (44) and twelve (12) Resident confirmed Covid-19 cases associated with the facility to date. The staff member has been placed on medical leave and removed from the schedule upon notification to minimize exposure risk to other Residents/Staff and will remain on medical leave until they meet the mandated criteria to return to work.

Action Plan: Our action plan will mirror revised state and local guidance. Zero (0) Residents were identified as close contacts therefore there will be no outbreak testing for Residents. Unvaccinated staff are required to be tested twice a week and we will continue voluntary surveillance monitoring of vaccinated staff weekly. Any subsequent positive test results will be communicated.

Contact us with questions: If you have any questions about COVID-19 or the steps that we are taking to protect our residents, please contact Scot Harmon, Administrator, at 513-842-0774, sharmon@beechwoodhome.com.

Sincerely,

Scot Harmon (Administrator)

&

Patricia A. Clark, DM (CEO, Administrator)

November 19, 2021

Residents/Family/Friends/Staff,

Giving Tree: The Activities Department plans to host another mobile Holiday Party this year complete with festive music, delicious treats and gifts for every Resident. Our Giving Tree continues to exist in a digital format, and we are grateful to anyone who chooses to participate and help make this joyful event possible. Please drop off wrapped gifts with their unique identification number visible by December 6th on the tables located between the glass doors at the Garden level Entrance. <https://signup.com/go/HkXuFjR>

Family Satisfaction Survey: The Ohio Department of Aging will be conducting the Family Satisfaction Survey sometime soon. Contact information for each Resident's Emergency Contact #1, listed in our medical record, was submitted for participation. This year they will initially send a survey link by text before mailing a paper survey.

Holiday Reservations @ Beechwood: Hamilton County's positivity rate has increased to 7.35% through the week of 11/09. This is a 1.39% increase over last week's reported positivity rate through 11/02. Due to rising covid cases again in our community, there will not be an opportunity for family/friends to have their Thanksgiving meal at the facility. Additionally, reserving a large room at the facility to host a large gathering will not be possible. With that being said, Residents are permitted to attend a holiday gathering hosted in the community and we ask that you inform Social Services of your plans ASAP so that your event can be added to the Resident Appointment calendar.

Preparing for a Safe Holiday with Rising Covid Rates: Following our recent experience of Covid-19 within the facility, we strongly encourage everyone to assess the risks associated with your family gathering and do all that is possible to protect yourself and a Residents in attendance as this ultimately could impact the wellbeing of others who reside at the facility. Friendly reminder that rapid testing on the day of an event is a great way to identify someone with Covid-19 and potentially prevent a super spreader event within your family.
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/gatherings.html>

Rapid Tests: Below are links to the rapid tests that the facility receives from the health department. Each box contains TWO tests for \$24 (\$12 per test).
<https://www.walgreens.com/store/c/binaxnow-covid-19-rapid-self-test-at-home-kit/1D=300414527-product> <https://www.cvs.com/shop/abbott-binaxnow-covid-19-antigen-self-test-2-tests-for-serial-testing-prodid-550147>

As always if you have any questions/comments/concerns please contact me, Scot Harmon (Administrator) or Patricia Clark (CEO).

On behalf of the facility, wishing everyone a safe, joyful and scrumptious Thanksgiving!