



BRICKSTONE | FOUNDATION | HOME | MEADOWS

April 16, 2020

Dear St. John's Residents and Family Members,

The increased availability of COVID-19 testing kits locally and the expanded access to testing for those individuals who are asymptomatic has provided St. John's with the opportunity to implement even more aggressive measures to stop organization-wide spread.

Cooperating with resident families to conduct almost 90 COVID-19 tests to date of our population of 385 residents at St. John's Home, we have been able to accurately identify 23 positive cases, including some who remain asymptomatic at this time. With this knowledge, we have implemented a plan to isolate all COVID-19 positive residents to two of 13 neighborhoods for the increased safety and care of all residents at St. John's. These isolated neighborhoods are fully staffed with round-the-clock, dedicated teams implementing the highest level of personal protective equipment including gloves, gowns, masks, and face shields. We extend our sincere gratitude to the families of the 23 residents whose involvement ensured this successful relocation of their loved ones.

St. John's continues to partner with the Department of Health to implement the most current best practices identified to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, which is impacting the elderly population across the country most vehemently. It is heartbreaking that to date there are more than 6,700 positive cases of COVID-19 in 347 nursing homes across New York State.

Across St. John's, 15 of our 1,000 employees have also tested positive.

As we currently face the existence of COVID-19 at St. John's, deployment of personal protective equipment has been and remains our most significant countermeasure. We have added the additional precaution, ahead of Department of Health recommendations, to mandate that face shields be worn by all staff members physically located on any resident neighborhood. While we maintain sufficient inventories of the critical supplies we need, we have also been exploring new avenues for obtaining necessary inventory, including innovative business partnerships, donations, and volunteer efforts.

Above all, we advocate for the people behind the tallies. Each person is an individual whose family is facing grief, worry, stress, and uncertainty. We extend our thoughts and prayers to all families facing COVID-19, including our own staff members that have been directly impacted.

We are also grateful for your continued trust in St. John's and your support for our team of dedicated staff that is doing unparalleled work at this difficult time.

Sincerely,

President and CEO

Embrace Living

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[stjohnsliving.org](http://stjohnsliving.org)