



**TO: Mill Street Residents & Family Members**  
**FROM: Mick Siems, Director**  
**DATE: October 8, 2021**  
**RE: COVID update; Flu shots**

Dear Mill Street Residents & Family Members,

COVID continues to have an ongoing presence in our community. Fortunately, the vaccine is readily available and I am happy to share that 100% of our residents are protected. The majority of our staff have been vaccinated and we continue to provide education and encouragement to those who have not. As you have likely heard, breakthrough cases are becoming more and more prevalent, so it is as important as ever that everyone remain vigilant and continue to take steps to protect yourself and your family.

Over the past couple of weeks, we have had a handful of employees either test positive for COVID or have had high-risk exposures. When either of these situations occur the employee is required to be off work for a minimum of 10 days (or longer) if testing positive or for 14 days due to a high-risk exposure.

Whenever a COVID-positive case is discovered, the process we follow is to perform contact tracing to determine (1) if the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) was in place at all times by the health care worker(s) involved, and (2) if there was 15 minutes or more of prolonged contact within six feet of the tenant(s) and/or health care worker(s) in the past 24 hours.

If contact tracing determines that a high-risk exposure has occurred, we are required to test the people that have been exposed. If those tests come back positive, we are required to lock down the building down to Essential Caregiver and Compassionate Care visits only. We are also required to conduct outbreak testing of all residents and staff until there are two continuous week of no positive results. I am happy to report that no tenants have tested positive due to any high-risk exposures. What this means is that our building remains open to visitation, outbreak testing is not required, and we will continue to move forward with the hope that COVID will soon be behind us.

Flu shots – Our residents are scheduled to receive their annual flu shots on Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 10:00 AM. The flu shots will be administered by clinic nursing staff in our lower-level multipurpose room.

As always, the health and well-being of both our staff and our tenants continues to be our highest priority. If you have any questions or concerns, you are invited to contact me at 218-736-8590. Thank you!