



TO: Mill Street Residents & Family Members
FROM: Mick Siems, Director
DATE: August 30, 2021
RE: COVID Update

Dear Mill Street Residents & Family Members,

As I had mentioned in a previous communication, the Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus has resulted in an increasing number of positive COVID cases in Fergus Falls and our surrounding communities. We have been very fortunate in keeping COVID out of our building for many, many months now. However, with this new variant being so easily transmitted, it was likely just a matter of time before a positive case would show up. Unfortunately, that positive case occurred this past weekend.

So what is our response moving forward? At present, the main entrance to our building is locked. Our residents are not being restricted at this time, though we are discouraging them from coming and going, other than for necessary medical appointments. Residents continue to have the freedom to move about and interact with others within the building.

General visitation has been halted and only Essential Caregiver or Compassionate Care visitors are allowed into the building at this time. **Essential Caregivers are not required to be tested or show proof of a negative COVID test.** Essential Caregivers are required to utilize eye protection (goggles) and a tight fitting surgical mask (not a clothmask) during their entire visit. We are in the process of updating our records of Essential Caregivers. As a family member, if you have a question as to whether or not you are listed as an Essential Caregiver, please contact Jess in our business office to confirm (jenoling@lrhc.org or (218) 739-2900).

Once a positive case is discovered, the MN Department of Health requires that we conduct outbreak testing of all residents and staff. That testing took place today and will continue on a weekly basis until we have two continuous weeks of no positive results. Once we reach that point, our building will re-open and general visitation will be allowed to resume.

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!