



October 9, 2021

Dear Residents, Employees, and Families:

**Bolded topics** highlighted in blue indicate changes have been made since the last communication.

### **COVID Vaccine Mandate to Include All Medicare and Medicaid Providers**

It has been announced that the Biden-Harris Administration will require COVID-19 vaccination of staff within all Medicare and Medicaid-certified facilities to protect both them and patients from the virus and its more contagious Delta variant. In the coming weeks, we will be solidifying a plan to meet the requirements of the impending Interim Final Rule to vaccinate all Monterey staff who do not have a qualified exemption defined by the Interim Final Rule. The Interim Final Rule will be issued in October. Below is an article published by McKnight's Long-Term Care News this week, "CMS 'getting pretty close' to releasing details of COVID-19 vaccination mandate."

<https://www.mcknights.com/news/cms-getting-pretty-close-to-releasing-details-of-covid-19-vaccination-mandate/>

### **Importance of Wearing Masks**

The wearing of masks is required for all Towers and Health Center common areas, even if a resident or employee has recently recovered from COVID. Other than Delta, not a lot is known about other variants that could cause future concerns about reinfection. Everyone wearing a mask is a best practice and demonstrates a unified approach to mitigating the spread of COVID in general. Complimentary KN95 masks continue to be available for residents and employees at the Towers and Health Center concierge desks. Below is the most recent CDC information link regarding the importance of wearing masks.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>

### **COVID Vaccine Booster**

Boomer Solutions administered 217 COVID vaccine boosters at the clinic for Towers and Garden Home residents on Wednesday, Oct 6<sup>th</sup>. Warren Clinic administered 174 high dose flu vaccines to Towers and Garden Home residents on Thursday, Oct 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Current Statistics (Oct 8<sup>th</sup> Oklahoma State Department of Health)**

- Tulsa's 3-day average for hospitalizations is 230 (82 of those in ICU).
- Oklahoma's positivity rate is 12.8%, down from 13.7%.

### **COVID Positive Towers and Garden Home Residents**

Since our last communication Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, no residents have tested positive. The *active* resident total is zero. The total number of residents who have tested positive is 31.

### **COVID Positive Employees**

Since our last communication on Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, no additional Chateau employees have tested positive. One employee has completed their 10-day quarantine. The total number of employees who have tested positive is 51.

### **Chateau Residents**

Since our last communication on Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, outbreak testing was conducted on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup> for Chateau One South. Two residents tested positive. The *active* resident total is three. These residents are being cared for in the COVID apartment by dedicated nursing staff. The total number of residents who have tested positive is 13. The next round of outbreak testing will be conducted for Chateau One South on Wednesday, Oct 13<sup>th</sup>. *Visitation for Chateau One South will be limited to outdoor and compassionate care visits, see additional information below.*

### **COVID Positive Villa & Abbey Residents**

There continues to be no positive cases in the Villa and Abbey. If additional cases occur, we will share that information in future COVID communications.

### **Health Center Visitation & Campus Involvement**

Visitation for Chateau One South is limited to outdoor, virtual, and compassionate care visits. To schedule outdoor or virtual visits please contact Courtney Willis at 918-728-8095 or [cwillis@montereau.net](mailto:cwillis@montereau.net).

Indoor visitation is open for all other areas of the Chateau, Villa and Abbey residents in accordance with our visitation guidelines. These guidelines are available at the Towers and Health Center Concierge desks. Please review the visitation guidelines prior to visiting. All Health Center visitors, including Towers and Garden Home residents, are required to screen at the Health Center Concierge desk.

Additionally, all Health Center residents with exception of Chateau One South may continue participation in Towers activities and events, including religious services, spa appointments, and use of the fitness center and restaurants. If any care base experiences a COVID outbreak, residents of that care base will postpone participation in these activities until the outbreak clears.

### **Employee Testing**

Surveillance testing for unvaccinated Home Care employees is conducted once per week. Villa and Abbey employees continue to be tested twice per week. Chateau employees are tested twice per week per CMS regulation. Guidance changed on Sep 13<sup>th</sup> and testing is now based on the facility's county level of community transmission instead of county test positivity rate. Tulsa County's transmission rate for long term care is 14.5%, up from 13.6%.

***Level of Community Transmission*** refers to a facility's county level of COVID-19 transmission. This metric uses two indicators for categorization:

1. Total number of new cases per 100,000 persons within the last 7 days and
2. Percentage of positive diagnostic and screening nucleic acid amplification tests (NAAT) during the last 7 days.

We continue to COVID test symptomatic employees and contact trace if positive. In addition, we are testing support staff who work in all areas of the community as an extra precautionary measure, including Towers Unidine staff.

Thank you,

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COO/Administrator Health Services