

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Employee tests positive for COVID-19 at Parsons Presbyterian Manor**

PARSONS, Kan. – One new case of COVID-19 was identified at Parsons Presbyterian Manor in early July when a contract health care worker tested positive for the virus.

The contract employee last worked on Thursday, July 1, screening in prior to their shift and wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) while at work. The contractor tested positive on July 3.

The Labette County Health Department was notified and recommended testing all unvaccinated staff members who worked with the contractor July 6. Those tests were negative. The health department recommended continuing with both indoor and outdoor visitation pending the outcome of the tests.

We will follow CDC and KDHE guidelines for when the contractor may return to work. Under the current guidelines, symptomatic individuals may return to work when at least 72 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and their symptoms have improved and at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared. Asymptomatic positive employees or contractors will quarantine for at least 10 days. Upon their return to work, we will follow CDC recommendations related to work practices and restrictions.

We will continue to monitor residents for signs and symptoms of respiratory illness and COVID-19 on every shift.

We encourage all staff members and residents to follow CDC guidelines and best practices as these are continually updated. We continue to screen employees as they enter the community building for a shift and before employees have any direct contact with residents. We educate all staff to stay at home if they are experiencing symptoms of a respiratory illness or not feeling well.

As the COVID-19 vaccine becomes available, it should play an instrumental role in eventually moving toward resuming our normal operations. Every person who receives the vaccine will strengthen the protection for all residents, staff and the community at-large. PMMA strongly encourages our families, employees and residents to carefully consider obtaining a vaccine for themselves as well as their loved ones.

For more information about Parsons Presbyterian Manor's response, go to PMMA's (Presbyterian Manors of Mid-America's) website, [Presbyterianmanors.org/media-room](https://www.presbyterianmanors.org/media-room).

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