

**March 2021**

## **Neighborhood News**

### *Family Updates*

#### Testing Results

We are still receiving our COVID test results within 48 hours of receipt. Since our last report, we have had 5 weeks with no positive COVID results for either staff or residents! As of February 19, CMS's published positivity rate for Grand Traverse County had dropped to 3.7%. We will continue watching this closely as we will be required to reinstate the twice weekly testing for staff should the positivity rate return to 10%+.

#### Staff Screening

Staff are required to enter the building through the employee tunnel wearing their mask. Employees have their temperature and photo taken via the thermal camera. If a temperature is outside of the acceptable range of 94-100 degrees, the nursing supervisor and administration are instantly alerted and an assessment is conducted by nursing at this time. If the temperature is acceptable, the screen on the thermal camera flashes green and staff proceed to the questionnaire kiosk to complete the screening. Should staff check yes to any symptoms, the system prevents them from completing the screening process and a nursing assessment is completed at this time.

#### Visitation

We continue with a large volume of electronic visits between the residents and their families. The county level per the MI Start Map dropped to a level D on February 4, 2021. We are now able to have some limited indoor visitations. There are many rules surrounding these visitations and we are just about to finish up the first trial week. We will look at those processes that were a bit cumbersome and make changes as needed. We have found that there are many families who do not wish to physically come into the facility at this time and would like to keep up with the window vestibule visits. We have adjusted the visitation schedule to accommodate this request understanding there are limits to what we can offer and accomplish on any given day. Our policy and forms are posted on our website under the Weekly Family Update. As they are revised we update this section so that the most current form is posted.

#### Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)

Currently we have an adequate supply of gowns, face shields and masks. The glove shortage has started to recede and we have been able to obtain some of the harder to get supplies. As a result of the declining numbers of COVID cases in our county and State, we will be allowing staff to return to surgical masks with goggles or face shields with the exception of the isolation unit. Full PPE including isolation gowns are utilized in the isolation unit and fitted N95's are mandatory in the care of COVID positive residents.

**Continued** ➡

## Communication

In addition to phone conferences between families and staff, COVID information and facility happenings can be found on our website under the Weekly Family Update tab, the Neighborhood News and the Legacy publication. In the event that families need to be notified of a positive COVID case, a ROBO call is sent out with information needed and direction to review the facility update page. Staff receive a facility text notifying them of a positive COVID. Our residents are notified verbally with reassurances and questions answered. As we have not had to make any calls regarding COVID positive cases, the last ROBO call sent out announced that we were able to start some indoor visitation and directed the caller to the website for more information.

## Infection Control

Employee and resident illness is tracked through our infection control processes to ensure that staff and residents are not exposing otherwise healthy individuals to potential germs. Staff and residents practice strict hand hygiene. Facility surfaces are disinfected several times daily and as needed. Staff are continually provided education on infection control practices within the workplace, in the community and at home. Staff are also required to wear eye protection while in the resident areas. We continue to administer the influenza vaccine to staff and residents. As interpreted by MDHHS, all new admissions, readmissions and those residents who leave the facility for appointments must be quarantined (preferably on the same unit) for 14 days regardless of a resident's COVID status. The Rehab unit is used for this purpose and has been divided into three sections – new and readmissions, those who go out for an appointment and those who become COVID positive. Staff on this unit are required to wear KN95's along with full PPE including face shields when entering any isolation room. In January, we received eight UV sanitizing lights, purchased through grant funding, that will be utilized to sanitize resident rooms and vehicles.

## Vaccine

The Pavilions has partnered with Walgreens Pharmacy to administer vaccine to our residents and staff. The second vaccination clinic was held on February 1-3, with both residents and staff receiving their second dose as well as many receiving their first dose. The third and final clinic, scheduled for March 1st, and per the guidelines has availability for those wishing to now be vaccinated to receive their first dose. Obtaining the second dose is not clear at this time however we have been informed that it should be available through local pharmacies (much like the influenza vaccine) in the near future so staff will be able to go to a Walgreen's to obtain their second dose. Our facility pharmacy is partnered with the vaccine program to receive an allotment and hopefully will be able to vaccinate new admissions and those needing a second dose. Vaccination does not preclude staff or residents from adhering to current infection control practices or allow staff from wearing required PPE.

### Social Workers

Aspen/Birch - Nicole Saheb .....932-3107  
Cherry - Amy Stein-Hansen.....932-3307  
Dogwood - Cindi Pobuda.....932-3407  
Elm - Holly Kazim.....932-3507  
Rehab - Leah Masters.....932-3707  
Kim Kucharski.....932-3727

Main Building - 1000 Pavilions Circle Traverse City, MI 49684 (231) 932-3000  
Evergreen Cottage - 521 Cottageview Drive (231) 932-3600  
Hawthorn Cottage - 523 Cottage Arbor Lane (231) 932-3620  
Willow Cottage - 525 Cottage Arbor Lane (231) 932-3640  
Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation Office (231) 932-3018  
Website - [www.gtpavilions.org](http://www.gtpavilions.org)



Grand Traverse Pavilions  
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