

06/10/2020

To Our Residents and Family Members:

In our ongoing communication with you during the COVID 19 pandemic, **Mulberry Creek Nursing and Rehab** continues to retest any employee and resident who previously tested positive for COVID-19, (under the direction of the local health department and Mulberry Creek's COVID 19 practice) in an effort to identify two negative test results prior to any employee returning to work or any resident being removed from isolation. During this process, we learned on June 5, 2020, one of our employees who previously tested positive received a second positive confirmation. The employee continues to remain out of work until two negative COVID-19 tests are received. In response to the nurse who tested positive last week after being tested at the local urgent care, **Mulberry Creek Nursing and Rehab** performed subsequent testing on all employees and residents. We were notified on 6/9/2020, a CNA had tested positive. This employee has been removed from work and has been self-quarantined and notification to the local health department was completed. The number of positive confirmations at **Mulberry Creek Nursing and Rehab** is two residents and six staff members. Also, the two residents who tested positive for COVID 19, after waiting the required time frame and re-testing, have received negative test results. Additional testing has been completed on both residents per health department guidance and those results are pending.

The safety and wellbeing of our residents continues to be our top priority. We are doing everything we can to limit the spread of COVID-19 within **Mulberry Creek Nursing and Rehab**, including staying in very close communication with local and state health officials to ensure we are taking all the appropriate steps under current circumstances.

We are taking steps based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to reduce the spread and impact of COVID-19, such as:

- Enhanced infection control precautions
- Screening residents, staff, and essential visitors for expanded list of symptoms
- Restricting visitation and entry of people to the building
- Proactively testing staff and residents for COVID-19 based on current protocols
- Postponing communal activities
- Increasing PPE par levels
- And CDC/CMS recommendations

Due to government privacy requirements, we cannot divulge specific information about the individuals who have confirmed or suspected COVID-19, unless they are your family member and you have the necessary permissions to receive such information. We know you are concerned about your loved one, but it is crucial that we restrict visitation to reduce the spread of this virus to others. We will contact you directly if your loved one is suspected or diagnosed with COVID-19.

We also understand that connecting with family members is incredibly important to our residents. Additionally, we encourage family members to connect with their loved ones through video chat, calling or facetime. We can also arrange for window visits. Please let us know by contacting Koby Johnson at koby.johnson@kissito.org or calling Koby at 276-638-8007 should we need to schedule this for you.

We need your help in battling COVID-19. Please visit the CDC website (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) to learn how you can help prevent the spread in our community.

This is a difficult time for everyone. We will continue to provide you with updates. Please know that we are adhering to guidelines from the local and state health departments, which continue to evolve as we learn more about this virus.

We know that you may have questions and we encourage you to contact our center. Please call us at 276-638-8701, email us at Bob.Nelson@kissito.org, or visit our website www.kissito.org for updates on the status of your loved one.

Sincerely,

Bob Nelson, Chief Administrative Officer