



Katie Richardson

VP/Administrator and Chief Long Term Care Officer

May 26, 2021

Dear Resident and Resident Representative:

Bergen New Bridge Medical Center remains committed to updating our residents and representatives regularly. There have not been any staff members or residents who have tested positive since the last communication. We are currently testing unvaccinated residents weekly as a proactive approach to ensuring we do not have any exposures to COVID-19. Staff continue to be tested weekly.

As the Department of Health continues to send updated guidance, we will continue to share the information. We are excited to share that we are welcoming back our volunteers and interns over the next several weeks with the proper screening and infection prevention precautions the same as our employees. Residents will now be able to enjoy activity programs and dining back in our dayroom/dining room areas. If all residents in the dayroom are fully vaccinated then residents will not need to wear masks during the programs. We continue to ask residents to wear masks in hallways. Residents can also go outdoors/off unit 9am-4:30pm with proper fitting masks regardless of vaccine status. We will limit to no more than two residents per unit off the unit at the same time, require sign in and out and no longer than 30 minute intervals. We ask our residents to schedule off unit with the staff. Our smoking porch remains closed at this time. Residents should not go to other resident units at this time. Small group programs in the Recreation Unit and Greenhouse will also resume.

Chapel/religious services will resume in the coming weeks and residents will be kept updated. We are also currently recruiting for a new hairdresser and hope to have services back in the building very soon.

As a reminder, if you are interested in getting the COVID-19 vaccine, please reach out to Sherri Siwulec or myself so we can provide assistance through our vaccination center. Please continue to schedule visitation appointments, it is wonderful for us to see so many of you both indoors and outdoors.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at 201-967-4004 or via email krichardson@newbridgehealth.org. I continue to encourage all of you to remain safe and healthy, wear a mask, maintain good hand hygiene, practice social distancing, and, when you can, get vaccinated

Sincerely,

Kathryn Richardson, LNHA
Chief Long Term Care Officer