



Katie Richardson
VP/Administrator and Chief Long Term Care Officer

January 7, 2021

Dear Resident and Resident Representative:

Happy New Year! I wanted to share that we have completed our second COVID-19 Vaccine distribution and will have our third one on Saturday, January 9 for our staff and residents. We have given over 350 vaccines to both staff and residents and these numbers continue to increase with each clinic. Our final first dose clinic date will be Friday, January 15, so if you have not already completed your consent, please reach out to myself or the unit social worker so we can ensure you or your loved one are vaccinated. The COVID-19 vaccine remains optional but strongly encouraged for all those residing and working in long term care facilities.

Our weekly testing of staff continues and, as per the updated Executive Directive No. 20-026, staff testing will now be twice a week due to the positivity rate noted on the COVID-19 Activity Level Index. Any percentage in the positivity rate over 10% requires twice a week testing. We do continue to monitor weekly and any adjustments to testing will take place as indicated. We also continue our weekly testing of residents as an additional level of surveillance.

For those who utilize our window visitation, you may notice, or will notice, our new visitation booths installed today. These booths are designed to help with the cooler temperatures providing a more comfortable area in the colder months. The visitation booth will have a cleaning schedule in place.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns at 201.967.4013 or krichardson@newbridgehealth.org. I continue to encourage all of you to remain safe and healthy, wear a mask, maintain good hand hygiene and practice social distancing. As a reminder, visit our website at <https://www.newbridgehealth.org/covid-19-testing/> for information on COVID-19 testing for you or a loved one.

All the best for a Happy and Healthy 2021!

Sincerely,

Kathryn Richardson, LNHA
Chief Long Term Care Officer