

April 21, 2020

Dear family and friends of Catholic Eldercare,

First, I want to thank you for your continued support and prayers for us at Catholic Eldercare. You sustain us, your prayers and commitment lift us through difficult times, and for that we are so grateful.

In our efforts to bolster communication to you about the COVID-19 virus in our community, we will continue weekly updates on Tuesdays. These will be sent via email, mail and posted on our web site <https://catholiceldercare.org/covid-19-information/>

As of today, we have 8 lab confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our long-term care facility. We have experienced 12 deaths since the virus was first detected. There are no active cases of COVID-19 in our Assisted Living or Independent Living communities.

Please understand that COVID-19 is in the greater community of Minneapolis-St. Paul. We are located in NE Minneapolis in Hennepin County, which has the highest number of cases in our State. I would like to share a statement from Jan Malcolm, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) that was released when MDH announced the congregate living locations with confirmed COVID-19 cases:

“Being on the list does not mean that the facility is deficient in any way or has done something wrong any more than we would say that there was something done wrong by a family with a household member that has a case. These are our most vulnerable residents...without the care and support of the staff who are working with them, we are going to have an additional crisis on our hands. It’s incumbent on all of us to understand that these facilities are working very hard to protect their residents and their staff, and we continue to work very closely with them to do everything possible to prevent the introduction and spread of the virus. However, with community transmission as it is, we should expect that many facilities will have cases, just as many work settings and families and households around the state have had and will have cases. We know that the risk of COVID-19 is general and widespread across all of our communities and why it is so very important that we practice social distancing and take those other protective measures in all areas of society. We need to be doing everything we can to protect the residents and employees at these facilities in particular.”

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In consultation with The Centers for Disease Control and the Minnesota Department of Health, we have temporarily designated a section on our 3<sup>rd</sup> floor skilled care to isolate any resident within our continuum with a lab confirmed positive COVID-19. We are dedicating staff to this section in order to conserve our limited supply of personal protective equipment (PPE). Any residents transferred here for this purpose will return to their original place of residence after their isolation period ends.

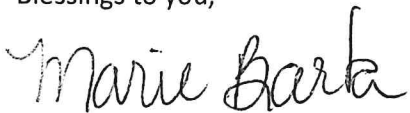
Although we have taken precautions and residents are isolated to their rooms, that does not mean that their care has diminished. Our therapeutic recreation and pastoral care staff have worked diligently to get a private TV channel up and running in the care center. Each day a Channel Guide is published, for example:

- Mass Schedule (11:30 a.m.)
- Travel Log (Recent trip was to Poland)
- Movies
- Meditation
- Dinner Music (Recently Polka Band, Orchestra & Concert Band)

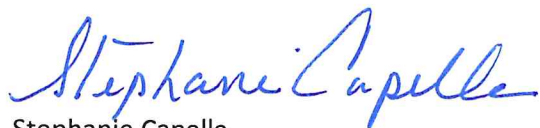
Other examples around our continuum include 1:1 visit by staff delivering mail, care packages, helping with Facetime or bringing a special treat from dining services.

We do better together and with your support and understanding those in our care will continue to thrive.

Blessings to you,



Marie Barta  
Director of Operations – Skilled Care Services



Stephanie Capelle  
Director of Operations – Housing & Community Based Services