

# COVID-19 UPDATE

December 14, 2020

Dear Residents and Family Members,

We received notice yesterday, December 13, 2020, that **an employee of Mather Place in Wilmette has a confirmed positive case of COVID-19**. This individual is taking guidance from their physician and we wish them a full recovery.

Mather Place is interviewing this individual to determine if he/she was in close contact with residents and/or employees (meaning within 6 feet of anyone for more than 15 minutes). Individuals who have been in close contact will be notified.

## **COVID-19 VACCINE NEWS:**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified health care workers and nursing home residents as the first group to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. There is a lot of activity by the state and local health department about how this will happen, and most plans are still in draft form, but we do have some information. We want to share this so you can begin thinking about any questions you may have about the vaccination process.

**We want you to know that Mather has taken the steps needed to have residents and employees of Mather Place included in the vaccine program; however, we do not know whether our community will be included in the first rollout, since we are not in a health care category. We will keep you informed as we learn more.**

## **HOUSEKEEPING SERVICES:**

In order to minimize contact between residents and employees, **we ask that you vacate your apartment home while housekeeping staff are present**. Please feel free to come to the community level while your apartment home is being cleaned. Thank you for following this precautionary measure.

## **VISITORS LIMITED TO ONCE PER WEEK:**

With the surge in cases all around us, we continue to ask for your support in limiting visits with residents or visiting virtually. We continue to limit family visits to one visit per week, with a maximum of two people. We must follow the safest practices which are outlined below.

- Upon entry, visitors must go through a screening station. Those who do not pass the screening will be asked to postpone their visit.
- **Visitors must wear masks the entire time they are in the community, including in the resident's apartment home.**

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- Visits can take place inside residents' apartment homes. Please do not gather or linger in amenity areas or hallways.
- For the duration of the visit, visitors and residents are asked to practice physical distancing, staying at least 6 feet away from each other; keep their masks on; and wash their hands for 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer upon entry of the apartment home and prior to leaving.
- Any resident who is under quarantine, including those who have returned from a "hot spot" state, may not accept visitors.

## **PLEASE REMAIN VIGILANT**

**We ask you to continue doing what you can to protect yourself and others, including**

- **practicing physical distancing (no closer than 6 feet away for no more than 15 minutes)**
- wearing masks that cover your mouth and nose when you are outside of your apartment home
- good hand hygiene by washing your hands frequently for 20 or more seconds
- avoiding small social gatherings
- leaving only for essential activities. Use grocery and pharmacy delivery services or curbside pickup when able. Limit your exposures during this holiday season.

Please take care and stay well.

Sincerely,

Katrina O'Neill  
Executive Director

*PS: This letter is being shared with all residents' current emergency contacts.*

## **COVID-19 SYMPTOMS – SELF MONITOR**

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, you should contact your physician for guidance, stay in your home, and notify the Concierge at (847) 256.9300. Symptoms include a loss of taste or smell, cough, fever, sore throat, shortness of breath, headache, chills, muscle pain, pink eye, eye pain, vertigo, discoloration of the toes, and gastrointestinal issues such as diarrhea, nausea, or vomiting.

