



July 30, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

I hope you had an opportunity to review my Tuesday July 28 update as there was quite a bit of information and updates in it. As a reminder, the Employee Resource page on our Intranet also has all of my updates available for you to review at your convenience. As always, your questions are welcome and should be forwarded to anarrow@oneidahealthcare.org.

Please note the following:

1. PPE- We are experiencing some high burn rates of our N95 masks and it is important that we do use them in the appropriate settings. I want to remind you how important proper wear of PPE is in protecting yourself, your co-workers and our patients and residents. A face shield over your either surgical mask or N95 mask is a must again to protect your eyes as well as protect your mask from being contaminated. We will continue to work very hard to ensure that you have an adequate supply of PPE to perform your job. Your responsibility is to wear the PPE appropriately and do all you can to conserve our very fragile supply of many PPE items. I hope by next week I will have some positive news on replenishment of our N95 mask supply. I have attached to today's update the most recent PPE instructions for ACF on 3M N95 and KN95 utilization. Our Infection Control staff are available to answer any specific questions you have regarding proper use of PPE.
2. In regards to COVID 19 testing results, we have tested a total of 6,857 individuals, 6,505 negative, 185 positive and we have 165 pending results. We remain at 3 hospital deaths as a result of COVID. We continue COVID free for our residents at the ECF. We did receive get any results back from Quest but we did do 24 rapid tests and did identify 1 positive ED patient. That patient was subsequently admitted and as a result we are back up to 2 positive COVID inpatients at this time.
3. The Employee Resource page available on our Intranet is going through an upgrade. We will be removing items that no longer are valid and will be adding some new items and should have that accomplished by early next week. Please check out the resource page at your leisure as you will find a number of good resources for your use.
4. Employee Gym- Questions have been raised as to when we will open up the employee gym. As you well know, the Governor has not allowed public gyms to open at this time. We are considered that type of entity so therefore, we will remain closed until we receive the go ahead from the Governor with whatever guidelines they will require us to adhere to when re-opening.

I will close today's brief update with a continued note of appreciation to all of our providers and employees. Oneida Health is an exceptional organization because of you.

With Sincerest Gratitude,


Gene F. Morreale