



Oneida Health
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May 1, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

Our volume within a good portion of our network is starting to pick up. Although we are not out of the woods yet, we are seeing non-COVID related admissions, a nice increase in elective procedures scheduled for next week and more patients now willing to go to offices to be seen. The ramp up will be slow, but....we are starting to experience an increase. This is exciting and if the numbers of COVID positive patients remains under control, we will no doubt be in a much better position moving forward. So good news overall.

Very, very important that we continue with the remarkable job you have all accomplished since the pandemic became our reality. Our staff and patients/residents have been safe because of the attention we paid to proper PPE as well as aggressive cleaning of the work site. This must continue as we are not out of harms way just yet. Positive test results continue to be reported throughout the CNY region. No excuse for not fully protecting yourself and our patients/residents.

In Thursday's CEO update, I shared with you the budget problem NY State is having as a result of the pandemic. I have attached to today's update a slide from a presentation from the CNY Behavioral Health Care Collaborative. I think it is important that we all be aware of the significant financial problem our state will need to address soon. No easy solution to this budget deficit other than raising taxes and/or reducing funding to State sponsored programs (i.e. healthcare, education, infrastructure, etc). The Governor continues to hold out hope that there will be a Federal Government sponsored bailout.

In regards to COVID-19, we have tested 1026, 838 are negative, 108 positive with 80 pending. We still have 1 positive inpatient with 13 inpatients pending. ECF remains COVID-19 free at this time. We are being requested by Madison County for them to test all our ECF staff and residents for COVID. This is the result of both the Federal and State Governments concern with the impact COVID is having on nursing homes. We will cooperate to the best of our ability with the County regarding this request.

PPE inventory remains in good shape due to the efforts by all of you to help us conserve and the receiving of the washable isolation gowns. A big thank you again to our Laundry team. Forever working behind the scenes to make sure we have clean and adequate linen for our patients and residents (not to mention scrubs/gowns). They are hardworking members of our team who deserve our thanks!

I will close today's update by once again congratulating you all for helping this organization meet the health care need of our community members. You are Awesome!

With Sincerest Gratitude,


Gene F. Morreale
President and CEO