



May 21, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

I hope you saw the wonderful article in today's Oneida Dispatch newspaper recognizing our ECF for the great work they are doing, that is, zero COVID positive residents. A nice photo of our staff accompanied the article. I know everyone in our ECF has focused on keeping this outstanding result intact. A special Thank you to our ECF team of caring and dedicated people.

Please note the following updates:

1. PPE inventory remains in good shape with the exception of small N95 masks. We have orders out to 6 different vendors for N95 masks, requesting to purchase 12,000. No indication of when or even if we will receive any of our ordered amount. On Tuesday, we will receive 288 washable isolation gowns. That number of additional gowns will help us conserve the yellow throw away isolation gowns. Again I want to recognize our laundry workers. They are hardworking and caring staff members who behind the scenes ensure we have the requested linen to meet our patient, resident and staff needs. With the warmer weather, the laundry becomes a more challenging place to work due to the amount of heat the equipment generates. We are fortunate to have our own onsite laundry and the fine people who staff it.
2. With the holiday weekend and beautiful weather in the forecast, please continue to protect yourself and your family/friends by following the guidelines. As health care providers/workers, our job is to set the example for others as we understand very well the impact this virus can have on one's health. By now we all know how this virus is spread, so again, please follow the guidelines. We are almost to the end of this very difficult and frustrating time.
3. We have tested 1832 individuals, 1539 negative, 139 positive with 154 pending. The increase in pending numbers is due to the ECF staff testing. We continue with 1 hospital death due to COVID. We received 39 results back today as follows: Elective procedure testing 15/0 positive, Inpatient 14/0 positive, ED 1/0 positive and Practices 9/0 positive. Our streak continues with 0 new positive cases. There are 0 inpatient positives and 8 pending results.
4. Our ED has seen a total of 53 COVID-19 positive patients since the virus started (in mid-April). Of those 53, 19 were admitted to the hospital. Symptoms of the positive cases were: Cough 70%, Chills/Aches 69%, Fever 65%, Dyspnea 51%, Nausea 47%, and loss of taste/smell 11%. As you will note, we are not being overrun with COVID in the ED, less than 1.5 patients/day. My point is the ED is a safe place to receive Emergency Care. Pass the word....

Please accept my continued gratitude to all of our talented providers and staff.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gene F. Morreale". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Gene F. Morreale  
President and CEO