



May 26, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

After a nice weather holiday weekend, we are back to the COVID-19 pandemic and Oneida Health's response plan. Those of you who travel on Route 5 coming from the West to the campus may have noticed the Walmart/Quest drive thru testing site. Not sure how well that is going as the County Health Department has not released any data from last weeks testing at that site. No doubt this hot weather will impact those staff who are working there to coordinate the actual testing. I know our nurses are quite hot with full PPE on. They do have the opportunity to come inside to cool off between testing.

Please note the following updates:

1. Any of our providers or employees who are knowingly exposed to a COVID positive person should immediately notify the Infection Control office at 315-361-2907. We have had 2 recent situations where an employee in the ACF and an employee in the ECF were exposed to a COVID positive individual. As a result, the ACF employee tested positive and has been out of work prior to symptoms. The ECF person remains negative but is now quarantined per the State guidance. What has helped us remain a safe place is that all staff are wearing masks, face shields and in many instances, gloves when performing care. Due to the fact that many positive COVID-19 cases have been asymptomatic, maintaining appropriate PPE coverage in the work place remains very important. Our policy is to keep household contacts of positive cases out of work for the safety of everyone.
2. With the above in mind, I am requesting continued adherence to our requirement of symptom checking upon entering and leaving work. The temperature check is important and so is the notation of any symptoms that you have at that time. As is states on the form used to document these symptoms "Temperature greater than 100.5 as well as any other positive symptoms noted on this form, please DO NOT report to work. Contact the Employee Health Office at ext. 1138 during normal business hours and your primary care provider." Although you can be asymptomatic and still be COVID positive, you are much more apt to spread the virus when you are symptomatic. We all need to do our part in protecting each other and our patients/residents.
3. April financials have been finalized and were approved by the Board. Our revenue fell short of budget by \$3.3 million due to the pandemic. Our expense reduction efforts helped to reduce expenses by \$1.1 million compared to budget. The net loss for the month of April was \$2.1 million compared against a budgeted gain of \$70,000. We were able to offset most of this loss by utilizing all of the stimulus funds of \$1.9 million received in April from the Federal Government. Two smaller grants received in April were also used to help with the revenue shortfall resulting in an operating loss, after all is said and done of \$141,000. Our year-to-date (Jan – Apr) loss sits at \$1.2 million. We did receive funds from the Federal Government in May

that will be used to help offset the May revenue shortfall. The stimulus dollars and our expense reduction programs have helped to ensure we meet our financial obligations. Thank you to all who have helped with reduced hours, reduced wages as well as conserving our supplies.

4. We have tested 2040 individuals, 1843 negative, 141 positive and 56 pending. One death in the hospital due to COVID to date. We have not received any results back today. We have 1 positive inpatient and 7 inpatients pending.
5. Our ECF staff are now starting round 2 of the required testing. I appreciate very much everyone's cooperation with this testing program. We remain with 0 COVID's in the ECF, something to be very proud of!!

I will close with a thank you for your continued excellent care provided to all who choose us for their care. I continue to receive positive comments from those we have provided care to.

With Sincerest Gratitude,



Gene F. Morreale
President and CEO