



September 22, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

As has been communicated previously, we are continuing to prepare for the upcoming flu season. As a reminder, the flu buggy will be out and about on October 6 with the goal of immunizing as many of our staff as possible during that one day. You should have received correspondence from the Infection Control office that included the consent form to receive the flu vaccine. Please print that out and have that available to speed up the process so that we can immunize a good majority of our staff on that special day.

Please be aware of the following:

1. PPE- We continue to fall short of the required 60 day supply for the long term care facility and the 90 day supply for the ACF for inventory purposes. The major areas of concern continue to be gloves as well as N95 masks. Although we feel good about where we are with our current inventory, we do not have an adequate amount to meet the state requirements. We will continue to do all we can to secure more of these items. It truly is a very challenging environment to find adequate supplies. We have decided to move forward with a new vendor for the alcohol based hand sanitizer. That will result in us replacing all the hand sanitizer units throughout the organization. More to come on that as we get closer to the implementation date.
2. Wearing of PPE- I have received a number of comments that we are getting a bit careless in regards to our compliance to wearing PPE while at work. This is problematic in that these are mandated requirements and people can report for non-compliance in the workplace especially if they feel that they could be exposed to the virus or the flu. Therefore, please continue to abide by the requirements for masking including face shields when in contact with patients/residents as well as washing hands regularly. The cleaning of high touch areas continues to be an important part of our infection control practices here. Please participate in that program as your schedule permits.
3. COVID Testing- Continued good news on the testing front. We received results every day since the last update which was last Thursday. All results through these days have been negative. We have tested a total of 10,854 individuals, 10,579 negative, 212 positive and we now have 57 pending. We remain at 3 hospital deaths and there are currently no COVID positive hospital inpatients or COVID positive residents at the ECF. We also do not have any COVID positive employees. This is definitely great news and we hope that this will continue. Our Emergency Department has gone over a month without a positive COVID patient.

In the Governor's update yesterday he continued to focus on the low infection rate within the state with the exception of Western NY. He thanked the people of the state for working together to combat the spread of this virus. As I have stated above, we have done very well as an organization and I too would

like to thank the many in our organization who have worked tirelessly to provide quality care and protect our residents, patients and each other from exposure to this virus. Please keep up the great work you are doing.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gene F. Morreale". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Gene F. Morreale