



September 3, 2020

Dear Fellow Employee,

I am pleased to start today's update with the fact that I have nothing but good news to report.

Please note the following:

1. PPE- We continue to have success in bringing in PPE to build up our inventory as required by state regulation. Although we are not there yet, if we continue on this path we will be at the 90 day inventory amount for pretty much all of our PPE needed to care for patients by the end of October which is the deadline provided us by the state. We have done as an organization remarkably well conserving our inventory and I again thank you all for that. Please understand that the cost of many of these items has gone up substantially since the pandemic started so our continued attention to using the PPE properly and conserving it appropriately is necessary and appreciated.
2. Hand Sanitizer- In a previous correspondence I talked about a shortage in obtaining refills for our wall mounted hand sanitizer units. Purchasing was able to secure from another vendor some stand-alone units with sanitizer containing alcohol which is recommended. Therefore, once the facilities staff assembles these stands, the sanitizer stands will be distributed throughout the hospital and available for staff use. I again ask you to whenever possible use soap and water.
3. COVID 19 Testing Results- We received 40 results yesterday, all negative with 1 determined to be inconclusive. We currently only have 52 tests pending from September 2. We have tested now 9,466 individuals, 9,200 negative, 209 positive and we continue with 3 hospital COVID deaths. We remain COVID free in our ECF at this time. No resident has been diagnosed with COVID as of this date. Continued congratulations to our ECF staff for doing what they have been doing in providing hands on care to our residents day in and day out. They have provided safe care which is greatly appreciated. We also currently have no COVID positive inpatients.
4. In our COVID leadership team meeting this morning, Dr. Kirby Black commented that we have had no positive COVID results in the ED for the past 14 days. That is wonderful news as our ED volume has been relatively stable and relatively strong during that time period. This reaffirms statements we have shared with the community that it is safe to come to our Emergency Department and we continue to follow appropriate PPE guidelines to ensure staff as well as patient safety. As a reminder, we are now allowing 1 visitor per ED patient which has proven to be received very well by our patients and family members.
5. Schools- The schools are starting to re-open. Again I ask that you please talk to your manager regarding any concerns you may have in the event that school is disrupted or there is a potential exposure involving one of your school aged children. Being prepared on how we will respond to

that situation if it does occur is important as our patients and residents require care and we need each of you here to provide that required care.

I will close with once again recognizing the wonderful work all of you are doing. This includes not only the hands on care providers. Also referencing all the staff in our support services from Laundry, to the Business Office to Registration, etc. All we have accomplished to date is truly a team effort and one we should all be proud of.

With Sincerest Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gene F. Morreale". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and "M".

Gene F. Morreale