



Steere House

May 12, 2020

NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTER

Dear Family and Friends:

Steere House continues to test our residents for COVID-19 as symptoms require and I have some new information to communicate.

Our resident COVID-19 count is now 35 in-house. If your loved one tested positive today, Steere House called you. Only a small number of residents were tested in the last 24 hours.

Resident information:

1. Half the area/rooms on the third floor are dedicated to COVID-19. To best care for those residents who move about, their location is behind fire doors for safety. We are assigning a separate nurse and nursing assistants to this area. Separate cleaning staff are also now assigned to the COVID-19 units. This staff have been trained on PPE, Infection Control and to the needs of these residents.
2. Other residents who have tested positive for COVID-19 are on the dedicated unit located in the rehabilitation area. Our Rehab team and equipment are temporarily relocated to the second floor.

Steere House decided to take these additional actions to expand restricted areas to better meet the needs of our residents and our support staff with training and equipment.

We will continue to periodically test residents, although all testing events is dictated by the RI Department of Health. This includes group testing efforts which are planned in advance by the RI Department of Health. Steere House will let you know about them through these letters.

Staff Information:

Steere House has temporarily required staff who tested positive for COVID-19 to remain at home and are not on our schedules. ALL staff will be re-tested when the Department of Health schedules that event.

General Information:

- Steere House continues to plan mitigating actions following the RI Department of Health guidelines. We speak with them frequently, including today to meet our patient care needs.
- ALL our staff are well-equipped with PPE, and expect a FEMA delivery sometime next week.
- High or frequently 'touched' areas are cleaned throughout the day and other disinfecting or cleaning activities are underway.
- DO be patient regarding phone calls: Our staff are working hard to take care of your loved ones.
- DO consider leaving a message so that calls can be returned at a better moment.

I am sincerely grateful for all the patience and for the many ways you have let us know you are thinking of the team here, your loved one's "second" family.

Yours truly,

Julie H. Richard, NHA, MA, Executive Director