



Coronavirus Response: CURRENT COVID-19 ACTIVITY

Earlier this week, we learned that a staff member in our Care Center tested positive for COVID. Since then, we have had an additional three staff members in our Care Center or Medical Center test positive, bringing the total to four active cases among employees. At this time, we do not have any COVID-positive residents.

The CDC has noted infection among both vaccinated and non-vaccinated individuals.

We continue to work closely with public health officials. The four cases have no immediately identifiable correlations, other than known exposure off-site for all four individuals. (As of August 2, the infection rate in Henderson County was 11.1%, a steep increase over the previous 7 days.) That is to say, they do not work in the same areas.

What This Means for the Care Center & Medical Center

The Care Center and Medical Center are continuing to communicate any potential exposures to residents and staff. **At this time, visitation to both of these healthcare areas is strongly discouraged.**

What This Means for Independent Living

There are no visitor restrictions for Independent Living residents at this time. Additionally, operations (including Dining Services and activities) will remain as they currently stand until further notice. If the situation demands it, we will communicate any changes to you as quickly as possible.

We Are Asking That You...

That said, Carolina Village is requiring the following for all community members – residents, employees, visitors, etc.:

1. ***You MUST wear a face mask that covers the nose and mouth when in common areas and when around those who do not live with you, REGARDLESS OF YOUR VACCINATION STATUS.***
 - Staff members who work in individual offices or behind plexiglass are not required to wear a mask unless they are around others.
2. ***You should symptom monitor and report ANY of the following symptoms to ILS (IL resident), your nurse (healthcare resident), or your supervisor (staff):***
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea



Vaccination Availability

As a reminder, **Carolina Village continues to offer the Moderna COVID vaccine to any community member who wishes to receive it. To sign up, please contact:**

- **ILS** (*If you are a resident in Independent Living*)
- **Your nurse** (*If you are a resident in the Care Center or Medical Center*)
- **Your supervisor** (*If you are staff*)

A Note about Staff Vaccination

We have received questions about whether or not Carolina Village employees are required to receive a COVID vaccine. While it may seem like a black-and-white issue, it is not. At this time, vaccination is not required as a condition of employment at Carolina Village. We continue to HIGHLY encourage all residents and staff to get vaccinated, even offering the convenience of receiving it here on campus. Furthermore, the Village continues to incentivize employees by providing additional paid time off after he or she receives the vaccine. Currently, approximately 95% of Village residents and 70% of staff is vaccinated. Despite the incentives, there are multiple reasons employees have opted out of receiving the vaccine, including medical exclusions, such as some allergies and other conditions, religious reasons, and other personal considerations. Carolina Village continues to offer the vaccine on campus when a resident or staff member requests it.

Moving Forward

IT REMAINS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU CONTINUE TO:

- **Inform ILS (IL residents), a nurse (healthcare residents), or your supervisor (staff) IMMEDIATELY if you are being tested for COVID-19, if you are feeling unwell, or if you or any recent visitors are showing any signs of COVID-19;**
- **Practice routine and vigorous hand-washing** of at least 30 seconds with soap and warm water;
- **Practice social distancing**, including remaining at least 6 feet from others whenever possible;
- **Inform us of travel off campus**, using the Hub's Absence Notification Form or by calling the front desk;
- **Report any concerns to ILS immediately**, including requests for neighbor well-checks, previous visitors who are now COVID-positive, etc.;
- **Stay abreast of campus updates** by monitoring the Hub ("Emergency Information >> Coronavirus Preparedness") and www.carolinavillage.com/news/coronavirus-preparedness. *Encourage your family, friends, and visitors to do the same.*
- **Be prepared for situation developments.**

Thank you for your cooperation. Please watch for situation updates as they occur, which could happen quickly.