



January 29, 2021

Dear Lions Gate Community Members,

Effective **January 23, 2021**, Lions Gate was declared “Out of Outbreak” status by the NJ Department of Health. More information regarding the effect of the end of outbreak is discussed below our statistics.

The end of outbreak status results in a reset of the statistics.

Please see below updated COVID statistics from **January 23** through today:

- Current # COVID positive on the cohort unit today 9
 - Residents from Independent Living 2
 - Residents from Assisted Living 0
 - Residents from Skilled Nursing 0
 - Residents from outside Lions Gate 7
- Cumulative Total # COVID positive Lions Gate residents 1
(1 of the 2 current residents was COVID positive prior to 1/23)
- Current # COVID positive employees 1
- Cumulative total COVID positive employee 1
- Cumulative total # of residents who passed away 2
(2 were COVID positive prior to 1/23)
- Cumulative total # of employees who passed away 0

Note: Lions Gate maintains a distinct COVID-positive unit, designed for isolation of COVID positive Lions Gate residents as well as persons who were COVID positive prior to admission to Lions Gate; they were in the hospital/community and in need of rehab services. We will no longer be reporting the cumulative numbers of these “outside” residents, only the Lions Gate residents.

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COVID VACCINE

We have our second dose of the COVID vaccination coming up on Sunday, January 31. It will be administered by CVS employees, as was the first dose.

COVID STATUS OF SKILLED NURSING AND ASSISTED LIVING

As you know, Lions Gate has been following local, State and Federal guidelines and recommendations for limiting/preventing the spread of COVID-19 within the facility. These guidelines include routine testing of asymptomatic residents, asymptomatic staff, and visitors. The rules about “who” and “how often” people are tested change based upon the level of infections in our region as well as the level of infection in our own facility.

On 1/11/2021, we were permitted to stop testing most residents routinely; this was allowed because Lions Gate had a 14 day period with “no new facility-onset cases”. Residents still being tested include those going out to dialysis centers, who are rapid-tested when they return, as well as those COVID-negative patients in our Rehab Center, who are tested weekly.

On 1/23/2021, we were declared “Out of Outbreak” by the Department of Health. This determination was made because Lions Gate had a 28 day period of “no new facility-onset cases” of residents or staff. This allows us to apply to advance to “Phase 1” in the Department of Health reopening plan. Advancing to Phase 1 will allow us to begin limited use of our Dining Rooms as well as offering a limited number of Group Activities. We will continue to strictly enforce COVID protocols – social distancing, face masks, hand washing and or hand sanitizing, etc.

If we were to have one new skilled nursing or assisted living resident test positive, or two staff members test positive within a 14-day period, we will return to “Outbreak Status” and move us back to Phase 0. Due to the current NJ statewide “Covid-19 Activity Level” score of “HIGH”, Lions Gate continues to test all staff members two times a week, per NJ DOH guidelines.

Lions Gate has approximately 300 staff members, all of whom live in various surrounding communities. We are hopeful that with the continuous COVID-19 education provided, the use of proper PPE and the vaccine, our staff will remain healthy and COVID free allowing us to advance through the various phases of reopening.

We will continue to keep you updated as to the COVID status of Lions Gate. If you have questions about COVID-related operations, please submit them to the lgadministrator@lionsgateccrc.org and we will respond as soon as we are able.

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INDOOR VISITATION

Many family members have inquired about the possibility of visitation starting once residents and loved ones receive the vaccine. Unfortunately, the NJ Department of Health has not changed their guidelines in light of people becoming vaccinated. We look forward to seeing this happen, but currently do not know when this will be permitted.

The two limiting factors for indoor visitation are positive facility on-set cases and positive cases in the general community outside of Lions Gate. Even though we (Lions Gate) have currently met the criteria to be “Out of Outbreak, unfortunately, the current “community” factor is what is keeping us from meeting both criteria. Everyone can help by receiving the vaccination when it is made available to them, wearing a mask, and washing their hands frequently.

We will continue to provide you with updates as they become available. Please know that we are strictly adhering to and following all infection control protocols and guidance from the CMS, CDC and the NJ Department of Health.

We thank you for your continued cooperation and support and appreciate your partnership during these challenging times.

If you have any questions, please call the COVID Hotline at 856-679-4679 or email at lgadministrator@lionsgateccrc.org

Be Well and Be Safe!

Respectfully,

David Thompson
COO/CFO

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