



August 20, 2020

To All Staff:

This is week twenty of our employee COVID-19 update.

**Status Update**

Each week we will provide you with updated information on COVID-testing at all of our campuses.

Testing Tracker: Summary of Employees & Residents Diagnostic Testing								
Employees	To date (since pandemic start)				New Suspected Cases			
	Employees tested	Tests Pending	Employees Positive	Employees Negative	Employees tested	Tests Pending	Employees Positive	Employees Negative
Chase	11	0	0	11	0	0	0	0
GSFH	6	0	1	5	0	0	0	0
GSVE	11	0	1*	10	0	0	0	0
			* last worked 3/29					
Residents	To date (since pandemic start)				New Suspected Cases			
Residents tested	Tests Pending	Residents Positive	Residents Negative	Residents tested	Tests Pending	Residents Positive	Residents Negative	
Chase	10	0	0	10	0	0	0	
GSFH	21	0	0	21	1	0	0	
GSVE	22	0	0	22	0	0	0	
Tested as of 8/12/20				8/13/20-8/19/20				
Please note some testing was purely precautionary as the individual was asymptomatic. Ex: fall led to ER visit and tested.								

**NYS DOH Mandatory Testing for all Staff (Reminder)**

Per the DOH guidelines for mandatory testing, the week runs from **Wednesday-Tuesday**. We are now in the week of August 19-25, a new week will start on August 26, which will run to August 26 – September 1. When scheduling or planning your appointment to be tested, please keep the week dates in mind in order to be in compliance with the Executive Order. This Executive Order was extended through September 4, 2020. We will keep you posted on any updates.

The testing times for each campus will be as follows:

<u>GSFH</u>		<u>GSVE</u>		<u>Chase</u>	
Tuesday	2-4pm	Monday	2-4pm	Monday	5am-5pm
Wednesday	7-9am	Tuesday	2-4pm	Tuesday	5am-5pm
Thursday	2-4pm	Wednesday	2-4pm	Wednesday	5am-5pm
Friday	7-9am	Friday	2-4pm		

**If you miss the weekly test, you cannot work and will not receive any pay, including benefit time, until you are tested. This includes using benefit time that was pre-approved for any time you are non-compliant prior to being tested.** Please understand we are taking this strong stance not to be punitive but because NYS DOH will be monitoring our compliance with the weekly testing requirements, and any non-compliance among our employees can result in the facility itself being penalized. We have eliminated the earlier requirement that we receive a negative test result prior to return in recognition that testing results are now taking an extended time. **Please help us meet this NYS DOH requirement by planning ahead and taking responsibility to be in compliance even if you are scheduled to be out for some portion of the testing week.** Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

### **Surveys Resuming**

Regular surveys are resuming for long-term providers after being suspended for nearly five months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services announced late Monday that it will resume routine inspections of all Medicare and Medicaid-certified providers. The State has been authorized for additional onsite revisits and other types of surveys, in addition to immediate jeopardy and infection control inspections.

### **NY Gyms Reopening**

NYS announced that on August 24<sup>th</sup>, gyms can reopen at 33% capacity with mandatory mask wearing and other strict infection control measures. For example, HVAC systems must meet guidelines, sign-in forms to track who is entering and leaving will be required, regular disinfection of all equipment between users is required, as is COVID-19 screenings, which may include temperature checks. We are working at GSVE and GSFH to meet all the new requirements, and should be announcing reopening dates soon.

### **Bowling Alleys Reopening**

Bowling alleys were able to open Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, at 50% capacity, with masks required at all times, as well as social distancing. Every other lane must be closed, and you must stay with your party within the assigned lane. Thorough cleaning and disinfecting of the rented equipment must be performed between each use as well as other safety guidelines.

### **NYS Quarantine Travel Restrictions (update)**

The list has been expanded again (newly added states in italics), the advisory applies to anyone traveling from Alabama, *Alaska*, Arizona, Arkansas, California, *Delaware*, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin, and two territory - Puerto Rico, and Virgin Island. No states have been removed from the list this week.



In the last round of testing 8/13-8/19, we had the following positive results:

*GSFH*

- No positive results.

*GSVE*

- No positive results.

*Chase*

- No positive results.



We really appreciate your on-going commitment to Good Shepherd-thanks for all you do!

Sincerely,

Linda Parke,  
Director of Human Resources