



July 9, 2020



To All Families of our Skilled Nursing and Adult Care Residents:

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	9	0	0	9	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	7	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
GSFH	20	0	0	20	0	0	0	0
GSVE	14	0	0	14	1	0	0	1
Tested as of 7/1/20					7/2/20-7/8/20			
Please note some testing was purely precautionary as the individual was asymptomatic. Ex: fall led to ER visit and tested.								

We continue to have a daily monitoring system to monitor all residents for signs/symptoms of COVID-19, as well as our daily screening for all staff.

Please note the chart above is for testing conducted for cause only. At this time, it does not include the mass staff weekly testing and resident baseline testing discussed below, or staff testing done as part of any pre-op procedures.

NYS DOH Mandatory Testing for all Staff

We continue to do the testing of our staffs as required by NYS Executive Order. Per Executive Order, each employee is tested *once per week*. The test is a simple nasal swab, and results usually arrive within 48 hours.

Please note testing is different than screening. Screening staff involves staff answering a series of questions about travel, work and symptoms, and having their temperature taken at the start of their shifts and every 12 hours thereafter. Testing is a laboratory test to find out if a person has coronavirus (COVID-19).

Results of Mass Testing (for employees who passed the screening process)

	Tested	Positive	Negative	Inconclusive or Indeterminate
GSFH	168	0	168	0
GSVE	147	0	147	0
Chase	119	1	111	7

In the last round of testing, we had the following positive results:

GSFH

- No positive results.

GSVE

- No positive results.

Chase

- Nursing staff member: Asymptomatic. Self-isolation for 14 days. One resident was in close contact and has been placed on droplet precautions. Three staff members were also in close contact and will be self-quarantining for 14 days.

Our staffs at both campuses are monitoring these situations in collaboration with both the NYS DOH and local Department of Health and will follow all recommendations.

NYS Quarantine Travel Restrictions- UPDATE

The list has been expanded (newly added states in italics) and currently, the advisory applies to anyone traveling from Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, *Delaware*, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, *Kansas*, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, *Oklahoma*, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Utah. Please note this includes NYS residents returning from these states.

The quarantine requirements do not apply to any individual passing through designated states for a limited duration (i.e., less than 24 hours) through the course of travel (e.g., layovers, rest area stops, etc.).

This requirement includes not only visitors, but also New York State residents returning from the affected states. *Please keep this in mind as you plan any vacations while the order is in effect.*

Payroll Protection Program

While nothing is more important to us than the safety of our residents and staff, we also need to be aware that there are significant unbudgeted expenses involved with the COVID pandemic, including securing scarce and ever more expensive Personal Protective Equipment (ex: masks and gloves), required testing, the We Care Differential for staff, and free employees meals for a number of months.

	Unbudgeted COVID- Related Non-Payroll Expenses by Campus (As of end of May)	We Care Differential (as of end of June)
GSVE:	\$51,230	\$ 99,318
GSFH:	\$66,454	\$135,088
Chase:	\$30,897	\$ 75,216

These expenses do not capture the hours of staff time devoted to COVID activities such as planning, communicating and reporting. To date, across our facilities, we estimate this to be around \$233,000 year to date.

At the same time, our revenue declined in part because of people's reluctance to enter or remain in a long-term care facility *at any level of care* and the cancellation of elective surgeries resulting in reduced need for inpatient and outpatient rehab. For example, 5 people/couples left GSVE IL due to COVID concerns, and we have been unable to fill these empty units for a loss of \$16,602 through the end of July. Total variances from budgeted revenue based on budgeted vs actual occupancy through end of June:

- GSVE: Despite the IL issue, the Village campus has not seen a loss overall due to the Health Care census and payor mix.
- GSFH: -\$135,088
- Chase: -\$365,490

Remember the above dollars for both expenses and revenues are only through the end of May/June, and we cannot project when this will all end or what the final losses might be.

Our management and our Board have taken the approach that we need to do what is right and best for each campuses' residents regardless of cost. But that doesn't mean we have unlimited funds, so we have pursued all options to help offset these costs.

The Paycheck Protection Program is a loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll during the COVID pandemic. It is managed through the Small Business Administration. The SBA will forgive loans if certain employee retention criteria are met, and the funds are used for eligible expenses. All three of our facilities were fortunate enough to secure loans through this program. We are carefully tracking all eligible expenses in hopes of having the loans forgiven.

We also received stimulus money to help offset COVID costs which has been extremely helpful in helping us during this time.

- GSFH \$409,034
- Chase \$375,114
- GSVE \$410,438

Lourdes Clinic New Berlin

We have been concentrating on COVID related news, but we wanted to take this opportunity to share some good news with everyone. On July 7, 2020, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the new Lourdes Clinic in New Berlin. This was the culmination of 18 months of collaboration between Lourdes and its parent, Ascension, Good Shepherd Communities, and Chase Memorial. Mike Keenan, our President\CEO, had approached Lourdes with the idea of locating a Clinic in an unused portion of a former elementary school building Chase owns on an adjacent property. Previously, there were no physician services available in New Berlin. Lourdes was enthusiastic about expanding its rural network, and was able to secure a New York State Transformation Grant to fund the renovations.

Services to be provided include primary care services such as health physicals, screening tests, treatment for existing health conditions, newborn and child well-checks, immunizations, preventative heart care, point of care testing, and healthcare resources. Patients can receive care via in-person and virtual visits with doctors and nurse practitioners. Services for dental, mammography, and primary care through mobile vans will also be provided.

The physician and nurse practitioner at the clinic will also see patients at the Chase Memorial which will enable the nursing facility to have Monday through Friday provider coverage, which is something no other non-hospital-based SNF can provide. The clinic is a wonderful addition for our facility, staff, and community.



FAQs: We receive multiple individual emails or calls with questions. Rather than respond individually to multiple individuals asking the same or similar questions, we have added a FAQs section each week. Please note we have an obligation to maintain the privacy of the health information of our employees and cannot provide information which could potentially identify them.

No new Q&As this week.

Donations

Thank you to the following individuals or groups for their generous donations of Personal Protective Equipment or other support to our staff and residents:

- No new donations have been received, but we neglected to thank the Reynolds family who donated food for all three shifts on the GSVE Memory Unit recently. A belated thank you!



Please visit our website for ongoing coverage of our response to COVID.

Thank you all for your patience during this difficult time. If you are feeling unusually high levels of stress, there are a number of resources available.

- Office of Mental Health Emotional Support Helpline: 1-844-863-9314 *
The Emotional Support Helpline provides free and confidential support, helping callers experiencing increased anxiety due to the coronavirus emergency. The Helpline is staffed by volunteers, including mental health professionals, who have received training in crisis counseling.
- CDC Resources : <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/managing-stress-anxiety.html>

Kathy Swezey
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Jennifer Davidson
GSVE Health Care Administrator

Gabby Skillen
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