

September 10, 2020



To All Independent Living 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	11	0	0	11	0	0	0	0
GSFH	9	0	3	6	0	0	0	0
GSVE	11	0	1	10	0	0	0	0
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	27	0	4	23	2	1	0	
GSVE	24	0	0	24	1	0	0	
Tested as of 9/2/20				9/3/20-9/9/20				
Please note some testing was purely precautionary as the individual was asymptomatic. Ex: fall led to ER visit and tested.								

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

**NYS DOH Mandatory Testing for all Staff: Results of week of 9/3-9/9/20:**

Mass Employee Testing				
	Tested	Positive	Negative	Inconclusive or Indeterminate
GSFH	182	2- but one is a retest not a new case	180	0
GSVE	95	0	95	0
Chase	65	0	65	0

**Staff Testing**

In the last round of staff testing (9/3/20-9/9/20), we had the following positive results:

*GSFH*

- On 9/4/20, one of our staff members who works in Assisted Living *tested positive for COVID-19.*
  - The employee is asymptomatic, and will self-isolate for 14 days.
  - No residents or other staff members were in close contact.

*GSVE*

- No new positive results.

*Chase*

- No new positive results.

***Resident Testing 9/3-9/9/20***

*GSFH*

- No positive resident results

*Chase*

- No positive resident tests.

*GSVE*

- No positive resident tests.

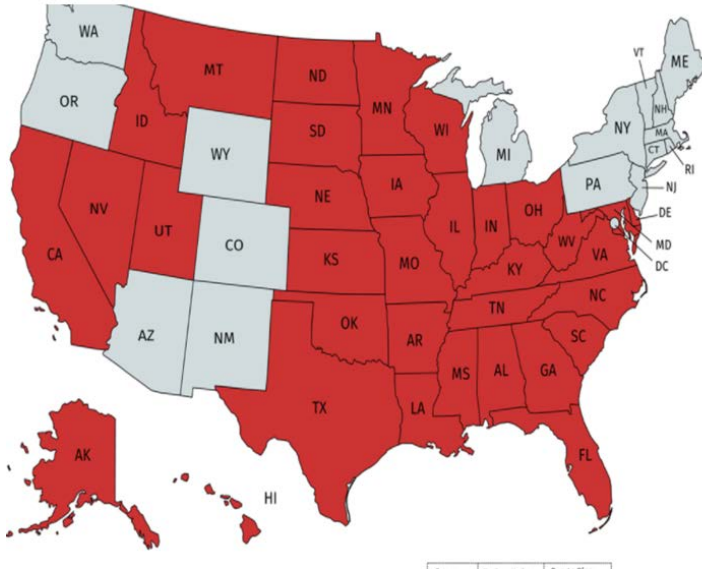
We continue to have a daily monitoring system to monitor all residents for signs/symptoms of COVID-19, as well as our daily screening for all staff.

***GSFH ALP***

**We continue to have six residents from GSFH's ALP unit who have tested positive for COVID-19 in recent weeks. Three remain hospitalized but are in stable condition. Three are on the unit. We are focusing our energies to care for these residents, and to curtail the spread within the unit and contain it.**

**NYS Quarantine Travel Restrictions- UPDATE 9/1/20**

The list has been revised again as of 9/8/2020 (changes in italics), the advisory applies to anyone traveling from Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, *Delaware*, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, *Maryland*, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, *Ohio*, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, *West Virginia*, Wisconsin, and one territory – Guam. No states were removed this week, *however, Puerto Rico, and US Virgin Islands were removed.*



This requirement to self-quarantine for 14 days 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.*

All out-of-state travelers from designated states must complete a form upon entering New York. Travelers who leave the airport without completing the form will be subject to a \$2,000 fine and may be brought to a hearing and ordered to complete mandatory quarantine. Travelers coming to New York from designated states through other means of transport, including trains and cars, must fill out the form online.

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 areas)

**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.

*Q: The news is reporting NYS has allowed visits to resume in nursing homes and adult care facilities. When will our facilities allow visitors?*

*A:* We will continue to address this question each week as we believe this addresses one of the most critical challenges facing our facilities, our resident and their family members.

On a positive note, we received notification last evening that ACFs and Assisted Living visitation rules had been amended to require 14 days without a positive COVID case rather than 28 as previously required. However, we have received mixed communications on whether multi-level campuses such as GSFH and GSVE can open different levels of care to visitations independently, or whether the campus is looked to as a whole. We will continue to pursue clarification in hopes that we can open the various levels of care at both GSFH and GSVE independently.

Hopefully, the NYS Department of Health will also address SNF visitation and also reduce the requirement from 28 to 14 days. There is increasing media coverage on families advocating for reopening visitations and relaxing some of the more stringent guidelines, and the change in the ACF rules indicate this has been partially successful. We understand the intent of the current guidelines is to protect our residents, but we also believe the current situation is having a very adverse impact on our residents' quality of life and also on their families.

## Donations

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

- The family of Henry Jones provided cupcakes in honor of his birthday to the GSVE SNF staff
- The family of Robert Decker provided cookies to the GSVE SNF staff
- Southern Tier 3D printed face shield project donated 100 face shields to the GSVE ACF staff

We are very grateful for all the support and donations, but please remember to contact the facility's Administrator prior to making a donation so they are aware and they can review any restrictions.



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>

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