Dear Gurwin Family Members:

As you already know, we are required by the NYS Department of Health (DOH) to inform our family members when any of our residents newly test positive for COVID-19, and this is information we provide daily, if necessary. We feel it is important to update you on our cumulative totals periodically, as this is often misrepresented in the media and on government websites, and we believe that transparency is critical as we continue to battle COVID-19.

Currently, we have 63 residents in the building who are positive for COVID-19. This includes 26 patients who have come to us already positive from local hospitals as per Governor Cuomo's March 25 mandate, and 37 of our existing residents. With the increased availability of testing kits and revised DOH guidance, we can now allow test all residents we suspect may be infected with COVID-19. Since yesterday, we had three residents test positive.

Our residents and their families are dear to us, and we mourn any time one is ill or passes. It is with a heavy heart and great sadness that we report that 40 of our residents have succumbed to this devastating disease, as well as one of our staff members.

While we mourn these losses, we continue to find reasons for hope. To date, we have discharged 11 residents who came to us with positive COVID-19 diagnoses from the hospital, and have had 47 residents recover and be medically cleared. These success stories keep us going, and help all of us move forward.

Our staff is extraordinarily grateful to the community and our family members who have sent words of encouragement, meals and financial donations to support them while they battle COVID-19 both here and in their personal lives. More than 150 of our employees have been tested to date, with roughly half confirmed positive. Many have already recovered and returned to work.

Our supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) have been sufficient throughout this crisis to enable us to comply with the most current guidance of the Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control at that time. This guidance is continually evolving, and we regularly adjust our practices to assure that we are in compliance. As the pandemic continues to unfold, we expect that guidelines will change to adapt.

Please be assured that you will be promptly notified if your loved one is identified as a suspected or positive case of COVID-19 or has any other significant change in condition. As always, we strictly adhere to HIPAA guidelines and cannot provide information on roommates or other specific residents.

These updates will be sent as necessary, and located on our website at www.gurwin.org/family-updates should you need to access them.

Sincerely,
The Gurwin Care Team

Video Chat with your loved one: email videochat@gurwin.org to request a time. (Limit one per family per week, please.)

Send your loved one a Gurwin Gram Gram. Send a short video to us via Facebook Messenger or by email to info@gurwin.org, and we’ll deliver your good wishes.