Dear Gurwin Residents and Family Members:

As you know, we are required by the NY State Department of Health to inform you of the status of COVID-19 in our facility. This update is sent when there is information to report, such as a new positive case or a loss, and weekly as a cumulative report in order to provide transparency. Brief updates are provided to our residents to view on their televisions on Channel 31, should they choose to view it, as needed.

We are pleased to inform you that the number of residents on our COVID-19 isolation unit has been on the decline. Currently, we have only 12 residents remaining on our isolation unit, two of whom came to us previously positive from the hospital in early May. We have had no new positive results for residents since our full surveillance nasal swab testing was completed early last week. This downward trend enables us to cautiously begin reducing the number of beds on our isolation unit. We have been happy to celebrate the recovery of almost 140 residents from the disease, who have either been discharged home or have returned to their rooms on other units.

While the shrinking number of COVID-19 cases is cause for optimism, we are acutely aware of the devastation the disease has inflicted, and we continue to mourn the lives of 60 of our residents who have passed from the coronavirus. With more than a week since a passing or new positive test, we are feeling some hope that we have turned a corner and better times are ahead.

Weekly testing of staff members continues to find occasional positive results, which requires the staff member to isolate for 14 days and only return to work after a negative clinical test result. Since the weekly testing began in May, 27 employees have tested positive; over the past three months, a total of 121 employees have tested positive for COVID-19, most of whom are recovered and back to work.

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 are 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.