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 report 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 information our families have requested. Updates are provided to our residents to view on their televisions on Channel 31, should they choose to view it, as needed.

Currently, we have 31 residents in our nursing and rehabilitation facility who are positive for COVID-19, 10 of whom previously came to us already positive from local hospitals. We have instituted surveillance testing on all residents, to better our ability to cohort residents who are positive, negative or status unknown. This increased testing has returned very few positives to date, which is reassuring for all. Since yesterday, we learned of one new positive result based on this testing.

With the increased availability of testing and in compliance with new regulations, we implemented an aggressive, twice-weekly testing initiative for our staff beginning May 20. Over the course of three weeks of testing, four staff members have tested newly positive for COVID-19.

As difficult as this time has been, the most devastating aspect has been the loss of our beloved residents. Since the pandemic began, we have mourned the loss of 57 residents, each one as dear to our staff as they were to their family members. As we move forward and see some cause for hope, we will not forget this heartbreaking loss.

With such profound loss, recoveries are even more heartening. Over the past several months, we have celebrated nearly 120 recoveries, and each one is a cause for celebration. Our staff gathers to cheer when residents are discharged, and happily place the names of our recovered residents on our colorful HOPE wall in our lobby.

Word cannot express how grateful we are to the community and our family members who have sent words of encouragement, meals and financial donations to support our staff while they battle COVID-19 both here and in their personal lives.

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.


Gurwin Healthcare System

631.715.2000 | 68 Hauppauge Road  Commack, NY 11725 | gurwin.org