

## Gurwin Jewish Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

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Tuesday, July 7, 2020  
5:00 PM

Dear Gurwin Residents and Family Members:

As you know, we are required by the NY State Department of Health (DOH) 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 on their televisions via Channel 31, should they choose to view it.

Today, we have wonderful news to report: we currently have no residents in our 2North isolation unit who have tested positive for COVID-19. While we understand that this does not mean we will never again have residents who are positive for the virus, it is a great testament to the care and dedication of our staff throughout these past few months. Their commitment to our residents shows in our success stories, including more than 150 recoveries.

While we celebrate successes, we also mourn 60 of our beloved residents who were lost to the disease. Tomorrow, our staff will participate in a Global Day of Remembrance to begin what will surely be a long process of healing. For anyone who wishes, you can join the brief vigil at noon, when it will be broadcast live on [Facebook](#). We are also planning a memorial event for the fall, which will be open to all residents and family members, of course depending on social distancing and isolation protocols at that time.

As you know, we have been testing our staff for COVID-19 on a weekly basis. Because staff is out in the community when not at work, it is not unexpected that some will test positive for the virus, though they may show no symptoms at all. Any staff member testing positive is required to isolate for 14 days and may only return to work after a negative clinical test result. Since the weekly testing began in May, 41 employees have tested positive, four of whom were reported newly positive within the last 72 hours. Over the past three months, a total of 135 employees have tested positive for COVID-19, most of whom are recovered and back to work.

With our state moving cautiously through reopening phases, visitation is on everyone's mind. Although we certainly would love to have our families back to visit in our building, we understand the need for caution and are still awaiting further guidance from the DOH on how to safely invite you back. In the meantime, we have begun modified Drive-Up visits, which have been so welcome for families and residents alike. If you have not already signed up for a visit, [please click here](#) or go to [bit.ly/GurwinDriveUp](https://bit.ly/GurwinDriveUp). Click through to the Sign Up Genius form at the bottom of the page, and choose the date and time that works best for your 10-minute visit. We look forward to seeing you.

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/](http://www.gurwin.org/family-updates/) should you need to access them.

Sincerely,  
The Gurwin Care Team

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**Video Chat** with your loved one: email [videochat@gurwin.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@gurwin.org), and we'll deliver your good wishes.

Schedule a 10-minute Drive-Up Visit at the Gurwin Center. Visit [bit.ly/GurwinDriveUp](https://bit.ly/GurwinDriveUp) for details and to book your time slot.

Visit our [website at www.gurwin.org](http://www.gurwin.org) for Frequently Asked Questions and other updates on COVID-19.

Gurwin Healthcare System

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