

October 23, 2020

Dear Residents,

The city of Evanston, along with other cities and counties throughout Illinois, is reporting a rise in the Coronavirus disease (Covid-19) cases and positivity rates. We continue to monitor this evolving situation and once again ask for your support and vigilance in minimizing the spread of the virus.

**Update on The Mather Life Centre:**

We were advised on October 22, that **a resident of The Mather Life Centre has a confirmed positive case of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)**. The resident is receiving care within the Life Centre and is taking guidance from their physician. We wish this resident a full recovery.

**Testing will continue to be conducted twice a week until there are no new positive results.** Results from Monday's surveillance testing of employees of the Life Centre were negative. We tested again yesterday, and those test results are pending.

Employees undergo a screening for symptoms and temperature check before they begin their shift at The Mather and have to confirm they do not feel ill. In the Life Centre, residents are screened twice per shift for temperature, respiratory status, and oxygen levels. If there is a change in symptoms, we will promptly notify the resident's physician and family member and follow their physician's guidance.

**All indoor and outdoor visits continue to be suspended in the Life Centre until we have no new Covid-19 case over a period of 14 days.**

**Independent Living Update:**

In addition to pausing all in-person dining, all in-person indoor programs and fitness classes have been paused as a precautionary measure.

The Mather, along with an interdisciplinary task force of Mather senior leadership, continues to meet regularly to discuss updates and new guidance released by the CDC and Illinois Department of Public Health to determine if new protocols, policies, and procedures are necessary. Additionally, The Mather has been working with the Evanston Health and Human Services department to discuss any additional ways to mitigate risk.

We continue to practice strong protocols and measures to keep residents and employees safe at The Mather. Here is an overview of what we are doing to minimize risk of infection throughout the community:

- Anyone entering the community is required to wear a mask.
- All employees and caregivers are being health-screened, including a temperature check.



- Housekeeping team cleans and disinfects high-touch areas regularly throughout the day.
- Practicing social/physical distancing.

This continues to be an unsettling time for all of us. Each of us play an integral part in infection control. With the rise in cases, we ask that you consider ways to protect yourself and others. **Please continue to practice physical distancing, proper hand hygiene, and wearing a mask that covers your nose and mouth.** The health and well-being of residents and staff continue to be our top priority.

**For general questions, please call (847) 492.4651 or email [bewell@thematherevanston.com](mailto:bewell@thematherevanston.com).**

Take care and stay well.

Sincerely,

Deann Daniel  
Executive Director

*PS: Please note that this letter is being shared with all residents' current emergency contacts.*

**COVID-19 SYMPTOMS:**

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, you should contact your physician for guidance, stay in your home, and notify the Concierge at (847) 492.5000. Symptoms include a loss of taste or smell, cough, fever, sore throat, shortness of breath, and gastrointestinal issues such as diarrhea, nausea, or vomiting. Newer symptoms recently added include headache, chills, and muscle pain. Please note that pink eye, eye pain, or vertigo, as well as discoloration of the toes may also be COVID-19 symptoms.

