

Coronavirus Update, Friday, August 14

The staff at Good Samaritan Center continues to work to address the outbreak of COVID-19 within the facility. The situation has stabilized somewhat, but a number of individuals have experienced symptoms. Nine residents have been transferred to the hospital for specialized care. As outlined by the Department of Health, the staff is using a symptoms-based strategy to clear residents who previously tested positive. The infected residents remain isolated on Camelia and Magnolia Neighborhoods while those who tested negative are residing on Dogwood.

At the present time, there are 13 staff members at Good Samaritan Center who tested positive. These individuals remain at home until they can be cleared.

There are no known cases of the virus among the residents or staff at Dacier Manor.

Currently there is one member in independent living who continues to receive positive tests for COVID-19. This member remains in a special COVID-19 rehab facility. There are no known cases of the virus among the staff in independent living.

Out of an abundance of caution, a few employees and one resident have been asked to self-isolate because of potential exposure. The employees remain at home until cleared to return to work.

Please remember that it takes all of us doing our part to keep our community safe. We continue to require the staff to take precautions and I ask each member to also. Wear a mask over your mouth and nose when out in public. They are required to enter certain facilities and to participate in many services. Also, maintain appropriate distances, wash your hands often and clean surfaces with a disinfectant.

There is much community spread of the virus in the areas around Dowling Park. So it is important to follow these guidelines no matter where you are. It appears that the virus has spread through the correctional facility in Suwannee County and thus the numbers have increased by almost 1,000 cases over the past 10 days. Today's total count in Suwannee County since March has reached 2,152 cases.

Regretfully, there is much conflicting information in the media regarding the virus and the confusion does not help as we continue to try to keep the community safe. Be assured that our goal is for this event not to be political and our effort is, to the best of our ability, to take the information and set a plan to limit risk as much as possible. Please, work with us and follow the guidelines we have set. We remain in this together.

As always, for questions about your situation, contact your Service Coordinator.

The next scheduled update will be Tuesday, August 18.

