

Aldersgate

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December 30, 2021

Dear Elders, Families and Friends of Aldersgate,

Aldersgate has remained free of COVID-19 cases for the past four months. Unfortunately, we have been notified that an elder from Aldersgate Assisted Living has been diagnosed with COVID-19. The elder is quarantined and is receiving appropriate care.

We closely adhere to the routine testing policy for elders and employees as laid out by CMS and the MSDH. Today we completed this testing for all elders and employees in Assisted Living and have one additional elder and one employee to report. All other elders and employees have tested negative for the virus. These two individuals have been quarantined as well. We continue to follow the CDC's criteria for return to work for all employees.

We have notified public health officials and are following all recommendations provided by CMS and the Mississippi State Department of Health. Please note that the MSDH defines an outbreak in long-term care facilities as a single positive case among elders or employees.

COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations are rising rapidly in the state as the Omicron variant spreads. As per recent guidance issued by the MSDH, masks should be worn indoors in public places to reduce the risk of transmission. As always, be tested if you feel sick, talk to a doctor about appropriate treatment and remain at home if you test positive.

Group gatherings and indoor activities can be major contributors of COVID-19 transmission. Please keep these gatherings few and small.

Vaccination remains the most effective way to prevent severe illness, hospitalization and death from COVID-19. Everyone aged 5 and older should be fully vaccinated, and those 18 and over should receive a booster at the appropriate time.

While we are currently open to indoor visits, it is critical that everyone take every measure possible to protect the elders and our team members. Please be mindful of the level of virus spread within your community and utilize all stated safety measure before visiting us at Aldersgate.

As a reminder, the fastest and easiest way to receive updated Aldersgate COVID-19 information is to call 662-844-8977 Ext. 212 for a pre-recorded message or go to mss.org/Aldersgate and click on the COVID-19 Update Button. As always, you can reach out to the Aldersgate Team at (601) 482-5561 for any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Robyn Stephens
Aldersgate Executive Director