

Martha Coker

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December 29, 2021

Dear Elders, Families and Friends of Martha Coker,

Martha Coker has remained free of COVID-19 cases for the past eleven weeks. Unfortunately, yesterday we were notified that three employees from the Martha Coker Green House Homes have been diagnosed with COVID-19. We closely adhere to the routine testing policy for elders and employees as laid out by CMS and the MSDH. We have completed testing for all elders and employees today and have several additional cases to report.

As of today, we have a total 8 employees who have tested positive for COVID-19. Currently everyone is either asymptomatic or only exhibiting mild symptoms. All elders and other employees have tested negative for the virus. The employees are quarantined at home and are receiving appropriate care. 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.

As per recent MSDH guidance, COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations are rising rapidly in the state as the Omicron variant spreads. 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 current transmission rates within your community (for Yazoo County, it is over 25%) and utilize all stated safety measure before visiting our campus.

AS a reminder, you can access campus specific updates by going to mss.org/MarthaCoker and clicking on the COVID-19 Update Button. You can also call 662-844-8977, Extension 225, for routine recorded updates. As always, you can reach out to our team at Martha Coker at 662-746-4621 for any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Bowman, BSN, RN, DON
Martha Coker Green House Homes
Director of Nursing