

## Facebook Covid-19 Update #16

August 28, 2020

BallouLife Communities continues to remain Covid-19 free. Our last round of tests from the previous week have all come back and are negative. We have already swabbed and sent off the swabs for this week, and everyone appears to be in good health. We continue to religiously screen the staff prior to entering the work areas and four (4) hours into their shift, and if they work longer, every four (4) hours thereafter. We take this very seriously, as we do not want to be the vector that introduces an illness into the facility, whether it be Covid-19, flu, or any other type of sickness. We truly love these residents and do not want to see any harm befall them.

Covid-19 in the State of Rhode Island has been stable, as I said last week, this is good. Our healthcare system is able to handle the cases that are cropping up and is not overwhelmed. We need to stay the course, continue good hand hygiene, wear your mask in public and when either out in public or visiting, maintain proper social distancing. I know that this is getting old and repetitive, but it really does help.

Flu vaccination is just around the corner. We will be contacting the POA shortly for permission to provide the vaccine to your loved one, as well as asking the residents personally. We can have you sign the forms, as POA, if necessary during your visitations. We had 100 percent compliance with the residents and only one staff deferral last year. These statistics are phenomenal and I can only hope to repeat them this year. We had no flu in the facility last year amongst the residents, a few staff did unfortunately come down with it, but were kept out and did not bring it into the workplace. We are very proactive in protecting your loved ones.

Again, visitation continues to go well. The improvement in waiting in your cars has shown a marked change for the better, but we would like to see everyone comply. These visits are extremely important for the welfare of the residents and for you. The residents are like giddy teenagers going on their first date when they know that their family is coming to visit. The excitement is palpable. I'm so very happy that we have been able to facilitate this for all involved. Tina continues to provide FaceTime for those who cannot visit and for interim virtual visits. For now, stay safe and healthy. Wash your hands, wear your mask and maintain social distance.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Daly, RN,  
Infection Preventionist