

## Facebook Covid-19 Update #21

October 2, 2020

Once again, it is so refreshing to say, BallouLife Communities remains Covid-19 free. Our test results from last week are all negative and this week's swabs have been picked up by the lab. The process is uncomfortable and Tina decided to have a bit of fun with me and had me pose with a mean look on my face....hmmm, was that my real face? The staff are reluctantly agreeable to getting their noses swabbed each week. As I previously stated, a bit of discomfort for the reassurance that we are protecting your loved ones and ours.

The positivity rate in the state continues to fluctuate; as of September 30, 2020, it was at 1.3 percent statewide. There continues to be pockets of higher community rates, and for Woonsocket it is at 1.2 percent.

We do our best to keep the facility safe. The basics include masking by staff at all times, washing our hands, and keeping a safe distance. Obviously, our jobs involve resident contact, but that is one of the driving factors for weekly surveillance testing. We stay up-to-date on all the guidelines from both the federal government and from the Rhode Island Department of Health. This is an on-going learning curve, as we learn more and more about Covid-19 and what we can do to keep it out and everyone safe.

Visitation continues to run smoothly. We are blessed to have such understanding families in this time of uncertainty. Tina continues to support the families with FaceTime calls. Please be patient with her, as the demand for these calls has increased, since some families have opted out of in-person visits and she still must maintain her activity calendar. Tina keeps these residents royally entertained and quite busy. Their smiling faces that get posted are proof positive of this. This week, another gorgeous fleece blanket was raffled off; the winner chosen by one of the residents. Congratulations to Cathy Durant, who won the autumn-themed blanket.

This has been a busy week for the facility in a lot of different ways. We will keep you posted on any changes that may occur. As always, wear a mask, wash your hands, and socially distance. Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Daly, RN,  
Infection Preventionist