

## Facebook Covid-19 Update #22

October 9, 2020

Another week has come and gone, and thankfully we, the staff, at BallouLife Communities once again remain Covid-19 free. This is a repetitive message that I send out each week, but it is one that I am happy to repeat from now until eternity. The swabs for this week have been picked up from the lab and are being processed at this time. Results are usually known by Monday or Tuesday, the following week.

The staff here is amazing; Covid fatigue/PPE fatigue is a real thing and we are vigilantly fighting our way through this. We had been masking, previous to the mandate from the state on March 22, 2020 and continue to do so. Our hands are constantly washed with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR). We have placed outside every resident room an ABHR dispenser and are in the process of placing them inside the rooms. They are also placed outside of most doors in the facility; anything to make the facility safer for our residents, families and staff.

We had a second Infection Control Survey by and for the state. The one back in June was the Federal inspection, and no deficiencies were found at that time. We are awaiting the results of this second inspection and should know the results in a week or two; and will update once we have them in hand. We are currently in our window for a full DOH annual survey as well.

Visitation once again continues to go well. We enjoy seeing our families, as much as your loved ones look forward to seeing you. We are working on an intercom system to improve the quality of your visit. We understand it is difficult for conversations to be heard, related to the plexiglass barrier and masks on both you and your loved one. Bear with us, until we can get this up and running. Covid-19 has changed so many dynamics in our lives and we continually look for ways to improve everyone's quality of life.

The administrative staff had a busy week. We virtually attended a 3-day seminar on disaster training. We have to complete our after-action report and update our current plan, and then will provide information to the families to let you know what will happen should a crisis (other than Covid-19) occur.

Tina is busy planning Halloween events for both the staff and the residents. Staff are encouraged to dress up for the holiday on Friday the 30th on all three shifts. The residents will choose the best costume and give out a prize. We will have a reverse Halloween Trick or Treat; the staff will provide treats to the residents provided by the facility and maybe a few tricks as well, who knows!

As always, wash your hands, wear a facemask and socially distance yourselves.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Daly, RN,  
Infection Preventionist