



Little Sisters of the Poor

Caring for the elderly poor since 1839

June 1, 2021

Dear Jeanne Jugan Community,

The RI DOH has recently updated the guidance for long term care facilities relative to COVID-19 vaccination status of Residents and staff, COVID Testing, personal protective equipment, and visitation. Long term care facilities will now be reporting the vaccination rates of staff and other health care workers on a weekly basis to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and monthly to the RI Department of Health. Our current **vaccination rate** for fully vaccinated staff is approximately 65%.

The **COVID Testing** guidelines have also changed. Unvaccinated and partially vaccinated Staff and Residents will be tested every 14 days. All Staff will be tested monthly starting June 7th. The Home reports COVID testing results weekly to the CDC. All test results have been negative. The testing frequency will change depending on the rate of positive cases in the county.

The guidance for **personal protective equipment** (PPE) has not changed. All Staff and Residents need to wear face covering at all times except for communal dining and outside while maintaining social distancing. No gowns will need to be worn, unless Residents need to quarantine/isolate. The Home will continue to screen all persons who enter the Home, and ensure that all continue to observe good hand hygiene and social distancing.

We also want to thank all our families and friends for your continued patience with the **visitation policies** and procedures. The Home will continue with the scheduled visitation for 45 minutes. The RI DOH recommends that visitation occur outside, weather permitting. Outside visits are lower risk than in-door visits. In-door, in-person visits will be in specific designated areas. Visitation may occur in the Resident's room for one visitor, and for two

JEANNE JUGAN RESIDENCE

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visitors if the visitors have been fully vaccinated. Please schedule your appointments in advance.

Infection control guidelines continue with regard to hand hygiene before and after the visit, mask wearing and social distancing. As we receive further direction from the RI DOH, we hope to return to pre-pandemic times, however Providence County continues to be disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

The Home is blessed with our faithful community Residents. Starting June



4th, our fully vaccinated community Residents will return to attend Mass and dinner in our designated areas. Once again we thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate through these challenging times. We remain optimistic, but vigilant in our policies and procedures in protecting our Residents, Staff and Visitors.

Mother Patricia Metzgar

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