



## Little Sisters of the Poor

Caring for the elderly poor since 1839

May 31, 2023

Dear Jeanne Jugan Community,

The public health emergency for COVID expired on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Long term care residents are most vulnerable, and for this reason, the CDC and the RI Department of Health will continue to provide regulations for long term care facilities in preventing the spread of COVID 19.

The first line of protection is being up-to-date with the COVID 19 bivalent vaccine. The Little Sisters of the Poor care about your health and safety and that of the people we serve. That's why we encourage all our staff, vendors, family members and residents to get vaccinated against COVID as soon as possible to be up to date with the COVID vaccines.

Getting vaccinated is the best way to help protect yourself and the people we serve from severe illness and death due to COVID. The vaccines are safe, effective, and free.

You can learn more at [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus). How to find COVID vaccines is easy. Go to [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov), text your zip code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233. Most pharmacies and primary care practices will administer the bivalent vaccines also.

Secondly, the Home will continue screening visitors, vendors, staff and residents for Covid. We ask if you are sick, please reschedule your visit for another time. Staff who are sick should not come to work.

Thirdly, the Home will continue to enforce good hand hygiene to prevent the spread of any viruses and/or germs. We will continue to educate staff and residents on the importance of infection prevention and control.

Lastly, as the transmission rate for COVID has declined, staff who are up-to-date with the COVID Bivalent vaccine will not need to wear source control (mask). Staff who are **not** up-to-date will need to wear a surgical mask until the transmission rate falls to "low." The Home will encourage visitors to continue to wear source control for their protection and the protection of our residents at their own discretion.

Thank you for helping to keep us all safer in the workplace.

Sincerely,

*Mother Patricia Metzgar*

**JEANNE JUGAN RESIDENCE**

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