

Stratford

The two employees who had tested positive are both recovering, and no new cases have been identified during our additional testing. As a precautionary measure, we had placed Stratford in quarantine and suspended in-room visitation. Those quarantine measures are set to expire on September 18.

Visitors

As a reminder, all visits must occur only in resident apartments or in outdoor spaces, such as the Plaza. Visitors and guests may not accompany residents to events or use common areas, unless those events are held outdoors. Visitors may not partake in in-person dining in Taylor's, the Bistro, or the Care Neighborhood dining rooms. All visitors to Saint John's must be always masked and observe proper social distancing. We are discouraging residents from having large groups visiting in their apartments.

Visitors to Windsor and Canterbury must always wear a surgical mask and visit only in resident rooms. Stratford visits will occur in the Stratford conference room while the neighborhood is in quarantine. To remain properly distanced in a resident room, we encourage limiting visitors to two at any time.

Events and Gathering

Residents of Saint John's are welcome to attend LifeStreams events and gatherings in the Towers or Neighborhoods. Visitors who do not live at Saint Johns may not accompany residents to events. It is permissible for paid, medically necessary care providers (such as companions) to attend events with residents. However, we ask that those care providers either be vaccinated or submit to routine testing.

Booster Vaccination

Formal guidance has not yet been published by the CDC on the need for booster vaccination. We continue to monitor the situation closely. In the meantime, we are proceeding with seasonal flu vaccination.

We advise all residents to locate their COVID vaccination card received when vaccinated this spring. Booster shots will be recorded on this same card. If you have laminated the card, don't worry – the additional sticker will be able to adhere to the lamination.

Metric Change

Throughout 2021, we have been reporting the trend of Milwaukee County's "Positivity Rate" (this week, it was 9.4%) This metric has illustrated the relative threat of COVID transmission at any time and served as our guide for implementing infection control measures. This past week, the CDC and CMS adopted a multi-factor representation of virus activity. This "Integrated County View" will be our benchmark moving forward. More information is available: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>

This week, under the old measure, Milwaukee County was in the Yellow, or Moderate, risk category. The new Integrated County View metric places us in the Red, or High, risk category. This will increase the frequency of COVID testing for unvaccinated staff members to twice weekly.

Questions?

The weekly COVID Updates are produced by Saint John's COVID Response Team. If you have a question for the team, please contact Matt Loyd, COO, at (414) 831 – 6953 or mloyd@saintjohnsmilw.org.