

**Does LSS require all staff to be vaccinated against COVID-19?**

Effective September 1, 2021, all LSS employees must have both doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or the single-dose Johnson and Johnson Janssen vaccine. New employees are required to show proof of vaccination or to be vaccinated as part of the employment process. LSS provides opportunities at our communities for employees and new employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19. In addition, LSS provides information about where vaccinations are available in the greater community.

**Does LSS require all residents to be vaccinated against COVID-19?**

LSS does not require any vaccinations for residents. LSS does highly recommend that residents get vaccinated against COVID-19. Regular opportunities are available for residents to get vaccinated.

**Does LSS test all residents?**

Assisted Living, Memory Care Assisted Living, and Care Center residents are only tested if there is a new case of COVID-19 in their specific living area.

Information on positive tests within Independent Living is self-reported by Independent Living residents.

**Does LSS test all staff?**

Based on recommendations from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), LSS tests Assisted Living, Memory Care Assisted Living, and Care Center staff either weekly or monthly depending upon positivity rates in the greater community.

LSS screens staff at the beginning of each shift. In Illinois, Care Center staff is also screened every four hours during their shift per Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidelines. Staff members are encouraged to obtain a COVID-19 test if they are experiencing temperature of 100.0 and respiratory symptoms or if they have had direct contact with someone who has COVID-19.

If a staff member is tested with a negative result, or if their physician determines a test is not required, they have been fever free without medication for 72 hours, and respiratory symptoms

have improved, they may return to work. If they test positive, the staff member will not be allowed to return to work until they have no fever for 72 hours without medication, respiratory symptoms have improved, and at least 10 days have passed since the first symptom appeared or since they were tested.

### **How do LSS communities communicate information about COVID-19?**

As of April 30, 2020, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued new guidelines asking all Care Centers to communicate the first positive COVID-19 case and if three or more residents or staff members have respiratory symptoms to Care Center residents, family members, and staff. In addition, Care Centers with cases also provide a weekly update to residents, family members, and staff.

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) requires that this information is also communicated for Assisted Living and Memory Care Assisted Living. LSS follows this direction for its Missouri communities as well.

Each LSS community has a web page where this information is updated by 5:00 p.m. daily and weekly summaries are updated by 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

LSS residents and family members have open communication with their community's executive director and are encouraged to reach out to their community directly with any questions.

Individual community pages can be found here:

[Breeze Park](#)

[Concordia Village](#)

[Heisinger Bluffs](#)

[Laclede Groves](#)

[Lenoir Woods](#)

[Lutheran Hillside Village](#)

[Mason Pointe](#)

[Meramec Bluffs](#)

[Meridian Village](#)

[Richmond Terrace](#)

### **Why do the case numbers on the LSS website not match other public websites?**

All information is reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and can also be found at <https://www.medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare/search.html>. Case numbers on

public websites may not line up with what is provided on the LSS web pages. This is because test results are updated faster on LSS web pages than on the public websites.

### **How are case numbers recorded?**

Resident cases are reported by level of living: Care Center, Assisted Living, and Independent Living. Assisted Living includes Memory Care Assisted Living and Assisted Living. Independent Living cases are self-reported by Independent Living residents.

Staff cases are reported by the level of living where they are assigned. Assisted Living includes Memory Case Assisted Living and Assisted Living.

Other cases include contracted providers who work in our communities.

### **How do I know if my loved one had contact with residents or staff who test positive for COVID-19 or have symptoms?**

LSS communities are carefully tracking staff member interaction with residents. Please contact your loved one's community if you have questions.