



August 3, 2021

Dear Union Grove Members, Friends, and Family:

Wisconsin is seeing a surge in positive cases of COVID-19. The past 18 months has taught us that cases of COVID-19 in our Homes are more likely to occur as COVID-19 cases surge in the areas surrounding us.

Since we last updated you on July 30, 2021, one employee test positive for COVID-19. There are currently four cases (zero members, four employees) of COVID-19 on campus. Per the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), we continue with facility-wide COVID-19 testing.

If you haven't already been vaccinated, I continue to urge you to do so. The Department of Health Services says that getting vaccinated is the best way to protect against COVID-19. 98% of COVID-19 cases from January 1 through July 22 were people who were unvaccinated. Getting vaccinated is one way we can help prevent the virus from entering our Home.

According to the CDC, fully vaccinated people should resume wearing masks indoors in areas where cases of COVID-19 have spiked to substantial or high levels. Racine County is included in the HIGH level category. The number of counties in Wisconsin that meet that threshold continues to grow as we are seeing a surge in COVID-19 cases. On Thursday, the City of Racine Public Health Administrator said the city's case rate has increased 900 percent over the last two weeks, and less than 40 percent of the city is vaccinated.

COVID-19 is avoidable and preventable. Let's all take precautions against it by continuing to adhere to the guidance set by the Centers for Disease Control when it comes to face coverings, social distancing, and hand washing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane Lynch".

Diane Lynch
Administrator of the Division of Veterans Homes