

Sunday, May 3, 2020

Dear Residents, Families and Friends,

As you no doubt know, the number of Covid-19 cases has continued to increase in Gallup and the rest of McKinley county. With the involvement of the National Guard all roads into Gallup have been closed down. These are difficult, frightening days for all of us.

Despite our continued efforts to stop the spread of the virus at Villa Guadalupe, even as it spreads all around us, I am sorry to report that we have seen an increase in the number of Residents, staff and Little Sisters affected by the virus in the past few days. Although everyone was tested for Covid-19 on April 28, within just two days a number of individuals began to show symptoms.

Eight new Residents have tested positive and 10 others are symptomatic. Twenty were retested two days ago; only 1 person tested positive. In addition, 40 employees were retested on May 1 and we are awaiting their results. Two Little Sisters have become symptomatic and were also retested on May 1; one of them is positive for the virus.

I want you to know that we are not without hope, despite the challenges we face. We have also witnessed many occasions of sharing and generosity. Several staff members have offered to stay with us at Villa Guadalupe so they will be available whenever we need them, without the risk of infecting their families.

One sick Resident has returned home from the hospital and continues to recover. Likewise, one employee has returned to work after being out for a month due to Covid-19. PPE and other needed items have been donated by a variety of individuals and organizations, including McKinley county and the New Mexico Health Association.

I am sure the situation is difficult for you on many levels as well, from not being able to visit your loved one in the Home to worrying about how you will make ends meet for your family. Know that we Little Sisters are praying for all of you as we do our best for your loved one.

Please don't hesitate to contact me or the other Little Sisters if you have any questions or have trouble contacting your loved one here at Villa Guadalupe.

Sincerely,
Sr. Sarah and all the Little Sisters