

June 8, 2020

Dear Families and Friends,

We may have finally turned a corner and things are looking up a bit here at Villa Guadalupe.

Although another Resident left us for heaven on May 29, there have been no deaths so far this month and we ardently pray that there will be no more. Please know that we Little Sisters miss each of our deceased Residents as if they were a member of our own family — for each of them really is a member of our Villa Guadalupe family! You are a part of our family as well.

There have been no new cases of Covid-19 among the Residents since our last letter and several of them are recovering well. Unfortunately 2 more staff members have tested positive, but others have recovered and returned to work. After these many weeks of battling Covid-19 I too have tested positive and will be quarantined for at least another week.

The best news I have to share with you this week is that 3 Little Sisters have come from our other Homes to help us care for the Residents until all of our Sisters and staff can return to work. Throughout this crisis our Little Sisters across the country have been praying for one another and doing the best they can to support one another. We are very happy to have Sr. Diane, Sr. Dora and Sr. Jacinta here with us, as well as Kim Bemis, a member of our Provincial administrative team, even if it is only temporary.

Although New Mexico has begun opening up, homes for the elderly have been asked not to let down their guard for some time. The state has established criteria for determining recovery from the virus, and these criteria will guide our progress. To be considered “recovered” it is necessary for the Residents to show a reduction in symptoms for at least 10 days and to be fever-free for the most recent 3 days before the determination is made. Each Resident will need two negative tests before finally being designated as “recovered.” The same criteria apply to staff. There is a process that will be undertaken for the resident who has recovered to transition them back into the rest of the Home.

We thank you for your prayerful support and concern the countless donations we have received. Please continue to pray for all of us here at Villa Guadalupe.

God bless you,
Mother Sarah and all the Little Sisters