



**TO:** All Sarasota Bay Club Residents  
**FROM:** Gail Chase *Gail*  
**DATE:** August 13, 2021  
**RE:** COVID Update

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This memo is to advise you we have two residents in Independent Living who have had a breakthrough infection and have tested positive for COVID-19. The residents are fully vaccinated and are currently stable and isolating in their unit. Based on discussion with the residents, there were two couples who met the criteria of exposure and were tested. All were found to have negative results. The original infection, based on contract tracing, appears to have been contracted in the outside community, not here at the Bay Club.

During the last seven days several staff have been tested and were found to be positive. Discussion with staff has revealed no residents who were exposed. All staff are stable and will return to work when all CDC guidelines are met.

In our last memo, we reported that there were positive cases at the Inn. Currently, there are seven positive cases at the Inn, two of which are Bay Club residents. All are stable including our residents.

### **Booster Shot**

The question has been asked by many regarding the booster shot. *We will absolutely get the booster shot when it becomes available to us.* Currently the Food and Drug Administration is working with Pfizer and Moderna to allow *fully vaccinated immunocompromised* people, such as those taking certain cancer drugs and organ transplant recipients, to receive an additional protective shot. CDC Director Walensky had said the number of people eligible for this initial booster rollout is only about 3% of the U.S. population.

Although there is some overlap in the immunocompromised population that includes residents of long-term care facilities, this demographic is not yet a booster target. Federal scientists have been tracking the ongoing effectiveness of the vaccines in older adults according to Dr. Anthony Fauci. In an interview Dr. Fauci stated ...” *We don’t feel at this particular point that, apart from immunocompromised people, we don’t feel the need to give boosters right now”.*

I assure you, just as we did with the first vaccinations, we will make every attempt to be first in line for any booster shot made available to us.

### **Vaccination Mandate**

Questions have also been raised about requiring staff to be vaccinated who work at SBC. The owners and I have been in discussions for months about this potential policy. We have engaged our Human Resource attorney to draw up a policy and procedure for us to implement such a mandate. Our goal is to notify all staff, increase our educational vaccination seminars, and make

the policy effective in October. Our next step is to finalize the policy and create a timeline for all the logistics. We will continue to keep you informed and updated.

The Delta variant is highly contagious as evidenced by the positivity rates continuing to rise. Florida has been named the number one “hot spot” in the country. Sarasota Memorial Hospital reported as of this morning that they have 209 COVID-19 patients. Forty-seven of those cases are in the ICU including someone under the age of 18. Ninety percent of those cases are unvaccinated as tracked by the hospital.

***The good news is that the vaccinations are working and doing what is expected. Although we are having breakthrough infections, our residents are not getting severely ill, being hospitalized, or dying. Remember the rate of efficacy is 93-95%. No vaccine is 100%.***

## **PROTOCOLS**

Just a reminder to everyone that all visitors, family and staff must wear a mask in the common areas, vaccinated or not. The ONLY people with a mask option are our residents. Some of you have decided to mask up in the common areas and I would strongly recommend EVERYONE do that. If our internal cases accelerate in any way, we will need to re-evaluate our protocols and look at contracting services and activities in certain areas that increase exposure potential.

As always, I thank you for your continuing support, your encouragement and your daily ‘goodwill’ wishes to me and all the staff. You are what helps make this very trying time have some meaning.