



St Basil's Homes for the Aged in Victoria

ABN: 41 070 511 616

15 July 2020

Dear Relatives, Resident Representatives & St Basils Fawkner Visitors

We write to provide you with an update of the status of the outbreak that we are facing at our home.

As you would recall we had placed all staff members who had been in close contact with the staff member who tested positive into self-isolation on full pay and they were tested but we had not received all of the results back. We had also instigated deep cleaning and sanitisation for all areas affected. We had encouraged all staff members to test and we had placed all of our residents who may have been in contact with the staff affected in isolation and observation.

Unfortunately, the situation has deteriorated further.

We now have 5 staff members who have returned a positive test.

They have all worked in the Nursing Home only and in the area that I indicated to you in my previous letter.

Also, one of our residents was exhibiting signs of infection and we have arranged for a transfer to the hospital for assessment last night. Unfortunately, the resident has now returned a positive test and is receiving treatment at the hospital.

We have now finally managed for the Health Department to arrive on site and test all of our residents and almost all of our staff (90% plus) today. We expect all tests results sometime tomorrow. Any staff member who was not tested today will not be allowed to return to work until they are tested and return a negative test.

All authorities are aware of the current position and we are working with them and we are undertaking all measures as advised and recommended by them. They have all visited our home and agree that we have taken all possible measures to contain the outbreak.

All of our dedicated staff are working tirelessly in providing a safe and comfortable living environment for our residents in their home. The health and safety of our residents and our staff is our first priority and we appreciate your support in the measures we are taking to make our home the safest possible place for our residents to be.

We understand that some of you will have questions that you may wish to ask, and we are happy to answer them. But we want to assure you that we are doing everything possible to overcome what is a difficult situation.

We will update you again tomorrow when we have the results of the tests. We have the email address for most of you and we will continue to update you promptly. However, for any of you who have not received direct notification by email we ask you that you provide us with your email address so that we can inform you promptly.

Thank you for your understanding and we wish that you and your family stay safe in these difficult times.

Vicky Kos

Facility Manager and on behalf of the Chairman of the Board of St Basil's Homes for the Aged in Victoria