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NEWS RELEASE

To: Local Media
From: Marie-Noel Sandoval, MPH, Health Officer
Date: May 4th, 2020

COVID-19 Weekday Update

As of today at 2:00pm, there have been 8,236 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of Wisconsin. Statewide, 340 individuals have died due to complications related to COVID-19. In Rock County, there have been a total of 289 confirmed positive cases, an increase of 27 from this time yesterday, and a total of seven COVID-19 related deaths. There have been a minimum of 2,446 negative tests results reported in our county, 133 of those being reported today.

Please visit our website, www.co.rock.wi.us/publichealth for additional local COVID-19 information updated daily.

Autumn Lake Healthcare at Beloit

Autumn Lake Healthcare at Beloit, a long-term skilled nursing care facility in Beloit, in close collaboration with the Rock County Health Department, would like to provide an update regarding COVID-19 and their facility.

Susan Viken, Administrator of Autumn Lake at Beloit, a skilled nursing facility in Beloit, today issued the following statement.

We would like to acknowledge that Autumn Lake Healthcare at Beloit has had a staff member test positive for the Coronavirus. It was important that we notified our staff, residents, and the family members before reaching out to the public. The facility took swift and immediate action upon learning of the positive test. The individual staff member is self-quarantined at home where that individual will remain until cleared by the public health department to return to work. This individual has not been in the building for 10 days. This was community acquired. There are no residents at Autumn Lake showing any signs or symptoms of the virus. It is also important to note that the staff member was not a direct care worker and had minimal exposure to any resident.

The health and wellbeing of our residents, staff, and associates remains our top priority. Since the beginning of the Coronavirus outbreak in the United States, the

staff at Autumn Lake has been vigilant in adhering to all infection control policies and procedures recommended by the CDC. We have maintained constant contact and collaboration with the public health department regarding updates in the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) and CMS (Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services) guidance.

The facility has implemented a unit separate from the other units to care for any residents that may become at risk. We continue to follow very strict procedures to prevent the spread of the virus. Staff are screened before entering the building; temperatures, questionnaires, masks, and hand sanitation are all standard requirements. There is continual monitoring of all the residents and staff members for any changes in condition. Staff members are aware & diligent about not coming to work if ill. There is continual education and updates being provided to both the staff and residents. Everyone including staff, residents, and family members are following the guidance stringently. All non-essential workers have been restricted from entering the facility since March 12, 2020.

We want to thank our community for standing with us side-by-side during this pandemic. We want to thank the families for their understanding and amazing support. We want to thank the Autumn Lake Corporation for ensuring that we always have everything we need, including ample supplies of PPE. Mostly, we would like to thank our residents and staff for working together as a team to maintain the safety and welfare of everyone at Autumn Lake. You are truly all Heroes!! Because it does take everyone," We" are all in this together. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and will advise the public of any changes.

Finally, Autumn Lake is very blessed to be a part of an industry that devotes our lives to the care of our senior citizens. We are blessed to have angels, heroes, come to work to care for our elderly no matter what, even in a pandemic. They do this because they love and truly care about these residents. They take their jobs very seriously and hold high standards. We are so proud of this team!

#AutumnLakeStrong!

God Bless and take care everyone!

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