

## Facebook Covid-19 Update #35

January 8, 2021

Happy New Year! BallouLife Communities remains Covid-19 free. All of the staff and residents have tested negative. We are still having staff family members test positive and staff must remain at home per RIDOH guidelines. Thankfully, the staff themselves have not tested positive as they have been coming by on a weekly basis to be swabbed. These are done outside of the building so that the staff and residents are never exposed.

As expected, the percent positive and new positive cases have seen the holiday bump; more so for Christmas, as the data is through January 2, 2021. I'm assuming the trend will be the same for New Year's. At least the hospitalization rate has not increased, however they are still flat out, exhausted, but able to maintain. Woonsocket's positivity rate as of January 2, 2021 was 15.4%, while the state as a whole was 9%. The previous week was 12% and 6.8% respectively.

We are still on track for the vaccine on January 19, 2021. Walgreens will be providing a clinic that day from 10 am to 3 pm. The residents are quite brave with a 91% acceptance of the vaccine, the staff is coming along. I, myself, have personally already received the vaccine. I did have a sore arm and experienced chills and a sense of fatigue for about an hour or so. I took a nap and woke up fine other than the sore arm that did last for a couple of days. It has given me a sense of security and hope for the future.

We are all experiencing holiday letdown, as we have been so hyped up for the past two weeks, enjoying all the festivities and excitement. Getting back to our normal routine is a huge anticlimax. Although having said that, there is comfort in the routine pattern of life.

As always, wash your hands, socially distance, wear a mask and stay within your small social circle of family and friends.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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Infection Preventionist