

Facebook Covid-19 Update #59

June 25, 2021

BallouLife Communities is on off week for swabbing as we swab every other week for non-vaccinated staff and residents and monthly for vaccinated staff. Last week's swabs were all negative, this was for the non-vaccinated staff and residents. This coming week all staff and non-vaccinated residents will be swabbed.

Our fully vaccinated rate is 76.5 percent for staff, we have a fluctuating number as we have ancillary staff that come into the building and need to be counted in my weekly totals. Therefore, accordingly the percentage reflects this influx of staff. The residents that are fully vaccinated remains at 92 percent, a second dose of the vaccine was given this week. We will be at 96 percent in two weeks, July 9, 2021. Of course this number may change based on admissions or discharges.

The state positivity rate this week is 0.39 percent down from last week at 0.5 percent. The surrounding states are Massachusetts at 0.22 percent and Connecticut at 0.57 percent. Providence County positivity rate is 0.6 percent, no change from last week, Woonsocket is part of Providence County. The vaccination rate for the state in its entirety is for fully vaccinated is at 63.9 percent and one plus dose is at 57.5 percent with a total of 1,261,997 doses given. There has been no change in the fully vaccinated rate but one plus dose is slightly higher as last week it was 56.7 percent. The vaccination rate for the counties is as follows: Providence County 56 percent, Kent County 67 percent, Newport County 68 percent and Bristol County 69 percent. Woonsocket's vaccination rate is at 46.8 percent. We definitely have room for improvement in the surrounding community.

All of the vaccines have proven to be somewhat effective against the variants. The Delta variant is becoming the variant of concern in the United States. It is highly transmissible even more so than the Alpha variant. The longer the virus is allowed to circulate the more variants will evolve, the best way to stop this is to be vaccinated. I understand the hesitancy but please look deep within your psyche and if you can get the vaccine, please do. Most of the CVS & Walgreen drug stores are offering it, you can also go to the State of Rhode Island website and look for vaccine clinics.

On a lighter note, Monday June 21, 2021 we celebrated the first day of summer. It was a bit warm and humid but then again it is summer. We had an outdoor concert with Steve Burke, fun was had by one and all. We have had a couple of rainy days that have brought the humidity down, the patio has become the place to be, lots of outdoor visits taking place. Tina has posted daily photos of the residents enjoying time outside this week.

As always wear a mask as when and where required, wash your hands, socially distance as required and please get a vaccine if you haven't done so already.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Daly, RN

Infection Preventionist