

Facebook Covid-19 Updated #63

July 23, 2021

BallouLife Communities continues to remain Covid-19 free. We had no testing last week and at the facility discretion will continue to monthly test the vaccinated staff. The Rhode Island Department of Health stated that vaccinated staff did not need to get tested unless certain criteria are met. We have decided given the prevalence of the Delta Variant and that some staff and residents are not vaccinated to continue with the testing as follows: Unvaccinated staff and residents every two weeks and vaccinated staff monthly. Vaccinated residents are exempt and will remain exempt until further notice. Unfortunately should there be breakthrough cases amongst the vaccinated, they may be asymptomatic and by continuing to test we will be able to catch those cases before they reach the residents.

Now for our weekly statistics, so much fun! Rhode Island continues to be in the top 10 states for lowest percent positive, however, that number continues to climb each week. We are 1.41 percent positive (0.55 percent last week), Vermont at 1.24 (0.90 percent last week), Massachusetts 1.40 percent (0.75 percent last week), New Hampshire 1.42 percent (1.42 percent last week), Maine 2.48 percent (1.19 percent last week), Connecticut 2.24 percent (1.14 percent last week) and finally New York 1.50 percent (1.04 percent last week). Most of these percentages have doubled. Covid-19 is on the rise in nearly 90 percent of the United States. This is mostly due to the Delta Variant which accounts for 83.2 percent of all new cases, last week this number was 57 percent and the week before 20 percent.

The County statistics are as follows: Providence County 1.0 percent positive up from 0.5 percent, Kent County 1.2 percent up from 1.0 percent, Washington County 0.7 percent up from 0.5 percent, Newport County 2.0 percent up from 0.8 percent and Bristol County 1.5 percent up from 0.7 percent. The vaccination rate has remained flat. Partially vaccinated is 66.9 percent up from 66.3 and fully vaccinated 60.9 percent up from 60.4. We need to do better.

The current 7-day moving average of daily new cases nationwide has increased 46.7 percent. While this is 84.2 percent lower than the peak in January 10, 2021 it is 250 percent higher than the lowest total on June 19, 2021. Hospital admissions 7-day average is 32.2 percent higher and has consistently increased since June 25, 2021. Covid deaths 7 day average has increased 9.3 percent. In Rhode Island while hospitalizations may have declined a bit this week the new cases has increased. Please again I reiterate, we can do better.

Back to BallouLife news. IF YOU ARE VISITING WITHIN THE FACILITY YOU ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK, THIS IS MANDATORY, NOT NEGOTIABLE. IF YOU DO NOT COMPLY YOU WILL

BE ASKED TO LEAVE. You have entrusted your loved ones to us to care for and protect them, this is us protecting them.

We have had a busy week in activities, exercise class is going well. Tina keeps coming up with such creative ideas, Bocce Bash, Antique Art and to top it all off a concert with Steve Burke.

Our vegetable garden is starting to bear results, can't wait for those sun-warmed tomatoes.

As always, wash your hands, wear a mask, socially distance, and get a vaccine.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Daly, RN

Infection Preventionist