

# Messages from SMP Health - Maryhill

A Newsletter for Maryhill Families

September 2024

Dear Family and Friends,

## Tapestry Health:

With advancements in technology, Maryhill is excited to announce our new partnership with Tapestry Health, a chronic care management and remote patient monitoring service that is both approved and highly recommended by CMS. This collaboration is designed to meet the complex healthcare needs of our long-term care residents and will complement, not replace, our existing onsite services and care, including the work of Maryhill's primary care physicians, Dr. Goven and Anna Fuka, as well as other members of our care team. Tapestry Health will provide additional support through skillful management and coordination within Point Click Care (our Electronic Medical Record system), allowing our floor staff to spend more time delivering hands-on care to residents. The partnership aims to enhance the quality of health updates and ensure that key factors and indicators are not overlooked. Tapestry Health will conduct an initial visit and gather necessary information. Residents and their families may see information related to this on the Explanation of Benefits; however, there will be no additional fees charged beyond what is covered by insurance. We look forward to sharing more information and updates as we implement this valuable support across our entire facility.

## Fall Vaccination Update – Vaccination Day October 17<sup>th</sup>!

Please be aware that we will be reaching out to provide additional information, answer any questions, and gather consent for the vaccinations listed below. The designated vaccination day is October 17<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, please note that Maryhill staff also receive vaccinations for which they qualify, as part of our commitment to protecting the residents in their care.

1. **24/25 Influenza**– The dose covers 3 strains of seasonal flu bugs to help reduce side effects. Influenza/Pneumonia is the 7<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in the US for individuals aged 65 years and older according to the Centers for Disease Control.
2. **COVID** - CDC has approved an updated vaccine formula targeting JN.1 / KP.2 Omicron Subvariants. It is recommended to help reduce severe disease and hospitalization.
3. **RSV** (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) is **NOT** an annual vaccine. If you didn't get it last year (2023) it is recommended for individuals 60-74 years are eligible to receive the RSV vaccine and individuals 75 years and older should accounting to CDC. RSV is another respiratory infection that is highly contagious that can result in life-threatening pneumonia and bronchitis.

## Ombudsman Update:

Background: An ombudsman can be used to help resolve complaints and issues between individuals and organizations, ensuring fair treatment and adherence to policies and regulations. In the context of long-term care and skilled nursing facilities, an ombudsman serves as a mediator for residents, addressing concerns related to their care, rights, and quality of life. They work to resolve disputes, improve services, and ensure that facilities comply with relevant laws and standards. Ombudsmen are appointed by the government which there will be a change to our local long-term care ombudsman assigned to support our residents at Maryhill. Starting September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Debbie Kraft, the ombudsman from the Minot area, will now be assigned to our area as our key representative. Please know that Maryhill leadership is committed to being a support and has an open door to continue to work with you to resolve issues and provide support 24-7.

## Call-Light Update at Maryhill:

We are excited to announce that the installation of our new call light system is underway, with our third-party vendor actively working on-site to make it fully operational. The West Wing is in progress and almost completed, and the team will then move to the South/Middle hallways/rooms for electrical work and installation. This new system is designed to be user-friendly and efficient, ensuring that help is always just a button press away. We are committed to minimizing any disruptions during this transition and appreciate your patience and support as we enhance our facilities.

## Safety/Infection Control:

As of August 28<sup>th</sup>, we have transitioned our hand soap and hand sanitizer supplies to Stein's Inc., with dispensers now fully installed throughout the facility. Black dispensers are used for hand soap near all sinks, and white dispensers are for hand sanitizer. In each resident room, three hand sanitizer dispensers are strategically placed for easy access: outside the door in the hallway, inside the room near the bathroom door, and inside the bathroom. This arrangement supports our commitment to maintaining high hand hygiene standards. Maryhill remains COVID-free, and while masking is optional, we encourage wearing a mask if you exhibit symptoms of respiratory illness, such as a runny nose, coughing, or sneezing. Masks will continue to be available at all entrances.

Guidelines to maintain a secure environment. Here are a couple of key reminders:

- **Do not let anyone out the front door** unless it is confirmed to be safe. The goal is to facilitate easy exit for visitors while keeping residents safe.
- If someone wants to follow you out or requests the door to be opened, **seek a staff member** to verify safety before proceeding. **Always ask** if there's any uncertainty about safety procedures.
- Continue to **Screen In** and obtain a visitor badge upon entry. **Always wear the visitor badge** inside the building.

Your cooperation is essential in helping to keep the facility secure. Safety is our top priority.



## *In Our Memory*

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of this special person who became part of our Maryhill family and has passed away in the past month. We treasure our memories with them and pray that God will be with their loved one at this time of loss. We will remember....

*Lorraine Fuka, 1924 – 2024*

Stay healthy and God bless,  
*Bailyn Hildestad, CEO/Administrator*



**SMP Health**  
Maryhill