



August 14, 2020

Dear Residents and Team Members,

We hope this letter finds you safe and well.

Over the past week or so there was a small spike in the state's COVID-19 data. As a result, Governor Baker has made adjustments to some of the existing guidance. The limit on outdoor gatherings has been reduced from 100 people to 50. Indoor gatherings remain at a maximum of 25. The 25 is greater than we are able to hold in any of our spaces, therefore no change to our current gathering numbers is required.

The latest initiative from Governor Baker's office is to track and trend data for each city and town within the Commonwealth, allowing for more targeted interventions aimed at stopping the spread in those communities where an uptick occurs. The data for the three communities in which we are located are as follows:

City/town	Cases since Jan 1	Cases in last 14 days	Compared to previous 14-day period	Positive test rate	Compared to last week
Amherst	118	12	Higher	1.29%	Lower
South Hadley	188	16	Higher	2.95%	Higher
Springfield	3123	92	Lower	2.37%	Lower

A city/town with more than 8 cases per 100,000 residents is considered a "hot spot" within Massachusetts. Amherst, South Hadley, and Springfield are not in that category. However, Granby and Holyoke are considered hot spots at this time.

This information is posted each Wednesday and is helpful to us when making operational decisions throughout the period of the pandemic. We prefer to be consistent with operations under COVID across the Loomis Communities, but there may be times that local transmission rates require a variation from one community to another. We appreciate your understanding if that becomes necessary.

On another note, work on the strategic plan continues to move ahead. One important assignment is the review of the Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles of The Loomis Communities. Your input is important in this work. If we have an email address for you, you should have received a survey yesterday, which is due back **by August 17th**. Please take a few minutes to complete it—thank you.

As always, thank you for your diligence in following the universal precautions that have been proven to reduce the spread: wear masks, social distance, wash your hands (or use hand sanitizer) frequently, and don't touch your face.

Interacting with others outside, versus being in enclosed spaces, is also one of the most effective ways to reduce your exposure. Even outside, large groups have been proven to be a breeding ground for the spread of this virus. It's best to avoid those settings if possible.

With appreciation,

Margaret Mantoni, CEO

Robert Claflin, Executive Director, Applewood

Lori Todd, Executive Director, Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing

Maureen O'Toole, Executive Director, Loomis Village

John Armstrong, Applewood resident

Nancy Eddy, Applewood resident

Carolyn Hoyt, Loomis Village resident

Dan Marx, Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing resident

Ann McIntosh, Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing resident

Janet Veitch, Loomis Village resident