

# MEMO

## Launch of Test-Based Strategy

We are pleased to share that our test-based strategy is finally coming to fruition and will launch next **Monday, November 22**. This strategy will allow for our community to accelerate the loosening of restrictions while providing greater confidence in our ability to contain any potential spread of the virus.

**What can we do in advance to prepare for a smooth and efficient roll out of Monday's COVID-19 testing date?** Please prepare the following documentation (appropriate documents are attached to this memo) by **Sunday, November 21**. You may drop off your paperwork to reception or bring them with you on the day of testing. Please note, you will only have to do this paperwork *once*. If you need any assistance with any forms or making copies, please contact Jessenia Cruz (2313), Elizabeth Archuleta (2108), or Jill Chang (3116). The following paperwork is needed:

**Insured people:**

- A copy of your insurance card
- A copy of your ID
- A completed requisition form (attached)

**Uninsured people:**

- A completed Attestation for the Uninsured form (attached)
- A copy of your ID
- A completed requisition form (attached)

**What time and where is the testing held on Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>?** Discover Labs, our testing partner, will be in the **Kinnear Theater from 8 am – 12 pm**. Thankfully, COVID-19 tests are a lot more comfortable today than when the pandemic began. The test should take about 15 seconds for each person and entails a gentle swab in the nostril, not the nasal canal.

**How often will testing be offered at Bayview?** Bayview will offer testing twice a week on **Mondays and Thursdays from 8 am – 12 pm in the Kinnear Theater**. We're hoping that by offering two test dates, we can better accommodate your schedule should you not be able to make one of the test days, or to offer you a stronger peace of mind, by testing two times a week. *Special note:* due to Thanksgiving next week, Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the only test date available for this specific week.

**With this test-based strategy in place starting Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, what does this mean and what exactly is changing?** This test-based strategy is one of many exciting new avenues Bayview is exploring for our community to move toward some semblance of normalcy while keeping resident safety and health at the forefront. **Activities, events, and programming will now increase to room/space capacity with no social distancing. (Facemask use is always required except when eating/drinking).** You must take a COVID-19 test with negative results to participate in **large-scale group activities, events, and programming**. Large scale events will always be denoted as \*test group event only\* and other activities and programming will default to non-test group event/activity. Weekly and twice weekly participation in the test-based strategy offers peace of mind that those around you have tested negative of the virus.

In celebration of the launch of the test-based strategy (and our liquor license), the Culinary Services department is hosting a happy hour for residents:

## **HAPPY HOUR FOR BAYVIEW RESIDENTS\***

**Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup> | Main Lobby | 4:00 – 5:00 pm**

In conjunction with the Terrace Garden Tree Lighting event, please join us in the Main Lobby for a celebratory occasion with libations and appetizers. Special drinks include Bayview-tinis and more.

*\*This event is open to residents who have participated in Monday's 11/22 COVID-19 testing with negative results.*

**What happens after I take the COVID-19 test?** We ship all tests overnight and results are produced the following day. You will only be contacted if you test positive, in which you will be notified by Bayview's Health Services department and encouraged to contact your primary care physician for further guidance and recommendations.

**The test-based strategy significantly increases capacity for activities and events but what about dining and visitation?** Dan Galvin, Director of Culinary Services will announce the next phase of reopening in the weekly and will continue to share exciting reopening details each week. While we want to open dining to full seating capacity, especially with the test-based strategy in place, Dan must carefully and methodically ease into each phase to help meet demand and alleviate already overstretched staff.

As for visitation, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has released new guidance which indicates from a federal level that visitation is allowed for all residents. The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) is currently reviewing the new CMS guidance and is interpreting the information at the Washington State level. Bayview has traditionally taken a measured approach to loosening restrictions, and we are awaiting DSHS's interpretation before any new changes are introduced. Stay tuned for more information soon!

**Yes, we are still required to wear facemasks:** King County Rate of Infection is still very high. Wearing facemasks is another layer of protection and helps mitigate risk of exposure.

We understand there may be a lot of questions along the way. The leadership team is meeting frequently to address next steps after the launch of this strategy. This is an exciting time for our community and we look forward to hearing your feedback as we continue to fine tune and enhance this process.

Sincerely,

Joel Smith, Health Services Administrator  
ext. 3357 | 206.281.5747 | [jsmith@bayviewseattle.org](mailto:jsmith@bayviewseattle.org)