



**For immediate release:**

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**Birchwood Terrace Residents Test Positive for COVID-19**  
*Patients Isolated and Receiving Care at Facility*

Dear Residents, Families and Staff:

This is a challenging time. We know that residents of facilities like ours can be uniquely vulnerable to this virus, which is why we are doing everything we can to protect our residents, their families, and our staff.

This morning we received the results of the remaining outstanding tests of symptomatic and/or affected residents and, unfortunately, seven additional residents tested positive for COVID-19. Each of these residents as well the impacted units are isolated from other residents. Unfortunately, due to privacy regulations we cannot share any additional information about the residents except let you know that each continues to receive the full medical care they need. We are in close contact with the Vermont Department of Health and UVMHC and are following their guidance.

We want to let you know that at this time we are taking extreme precautions and doing everything we can to protect our residents, their families, and our staff. At this time, we are in the process of testing all staff members and residents of our facility- even though they have not showed any symptoms. We understand that this an extreme step but one that is necessary and hope to have those results in short order.

We are also doing everything possible to minimize any additional cases. We have been strictly following CDC guidelines for screening and prevention since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in Vermont, and not allowing visitors except at end of life. All employees must pass a screening protocol, and residents have been screened daily and closely monitored. Birchwood has also been following guidance of the Department of Health and Infectious Disease team at UVM Medical Center regarding parameters and guidelines for testing residents. We have been testing residents proactively and taken certain precautionary measures such as temperature checks twice per day.

Importantly, we have been reaching out to residents and family members regularly via letters, personal phone calls (priority to affected patients/units) and daily social media posts for general updates and prevention efforts.

We're so proud of our employees who are working hard to provide safe and compassionate care for all our residents at this time. We are so grateful!

For COVID-19 information and guidance, visit [healthvermont.gov/covid19](https://healthvermont.gov/covid19).

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### **About Birchwood Terrace**

Birchwood Terrace is a 144-bed Skilled Nursing Facility located in Burlington's North End. From intensive short term rehabilitation therapy to longer-term restorative care, Birchwood Terrace provides a full range of nursing care and social services to treat and support each of our residents' needs.

Visit <http://birchwoodterrace.com/>