



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For More Information Contact:

Sue Wilson, Administrator

Christian Haven Home

616-842-0170

swilson@christianhavenhome.org

Christian Haven Home assisted living, like so many other long-term care facilities across the country, has felt the effects of COVID-19. Several residents have just tested positive; one employee had tested positive 3½ weeks ago, another was tested earlier yesterday and is awaiting results. The employee who had tested positive notified us immediately when feeling symptoms. The employee was not working when symptomatic and has not yet returned to work.

We have been in close contact with the Ottawa Department of Public Health and have been diligently working to follow their guidance on prevention and treatment since the arrival of COVID-19 in our area. From the beginning, we've been doing all that we can to minimize the spread of COVID-19 to our residents and staff. "We are thankful for the partnership with the leadership and staff at Christian Haven Home as we work through this difficult time," said Dr. Paul Heidel, medical director with the Ottawa County Department of Public Health. "The effects this pandemic has had on the senior community is a reminder of how we need to work to protect others and keep this virus from spreading." Yesterday, the facility began the process of having all residents and staff tested. Repeat tests for those testing negative will be conducted in seven days.

"Christian Haven is a home where everyone truly knows each other," said Administrator Sue Wilson, "Our hearts go out to those affected and to their families. The staff remains deeply committed to doing all they can for each of our residents. Every day, I'm touched by the way our staff is working together to do their best to help our residents not only stay healthy but continue to feel valued and cared for. We've always felt a strong sense of community at Christian Haven Home, and that is felt now more than ever."

Distributed by Kristina Wieghmink, public information officer

Ottawa County Department of Public Health

616-510-8523, kwieghmink@miottawa.org

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