

Eagle Lake Office  
PO Box 310  
Eagle Lake, ME 04739  
Telephone (207) 444-5152  
Fax (207) 444-6099



Caribou Office  
PO Box 187  
Caribou, ME 04736  
Telephone (207) 492-1036  
Fax (207) 492-1830

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Contact: Tessie Dubois, 444-5152

## **Mercy Home COVID-19 Update: 26 residents, 13 employees, and 2 deaths**

**EAGLE LAKE, Maine (Jan. 4, 2021)** – Mercy Home Administrator Denise Raymond issued a COVID-19 update yesterday evening reflecting the pandemic’s impact on the nursing home facility, including notation that a second resident has succumbed to the novel coronavirus.

“Our sympathies go out to the family of the deceased,” Raymond subsequently said. “It’s been somber.”

In addition, five more residents have tested positive since the previous daily briefing to residents and their families or representatives. They are all in private rooms.

Here is the current overview, reflecting updated numbers from this weekend:

- Twenty-six (26) residents and 13 employees have active COVID-19;
- An additional five residents are suspected of having active COVID-19 and are awaiting further lab confirmation;
- A resident has succumbed to the novel coronavirus, for a total of two; and
- An additional employee has recovered, for a total of five to date.

Mercy Home has added a new Resident Phone Line on the COVID Unit. When you call 444-5152 to speak to your loved one, please ask for Ext. 301. In addition, room numbers have been placed on windows, facing out, for those who would like to have window visits with their loved ones. Also, virtual visits continue; they are encouraged and welcomed. To coordinate a virtual visit, please ask for Ext. 206; that extension is manned from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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***Our mission is to provide individuals with the highest standard of care and help all of the people we serve enjoy life to the fullest potential.***

“Our goal is to promote your contact with your loved one within the guidelines we have been provided,” said Raymond, who also oversees Franciscan Home.

All measures to keep residents and employees as safe as possible continue at Mercy Home and Franciscan Home.

Further information will be provided as it becomes available.

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*Northern Maine General is a nonprofit social services organization serving Aroostook County, with business offices in Eagle Lake and Caribou. Founded in 1907, NMG provides long-term care, rehabilitation, home and community supports, behavioral health services, case management, and consultation services and resources. Contracted services include subsidized apartments.*