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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Mercy Home COVID-19 Update: Twenty-six residents remain positive; employees recovering; a third resident has died

EAGLE LAKE, Maine (Jan. 5, 2021) – Yesterday evening, Mercy Home Administrator Denise Raymond issued her daily COVID-19 update, reflecting the pandemic's impact on the nursing home facility, including notation that a third resident has succumbed to the novel coronavirus.

Raymond and her staff extend their sympathies to the family.

The update references the following:

- Twenty-six (26) residents and eight (8) staff have active COVID-19,
- Five (5) suspected resident cases are awaiting lab confirmation,
- To date, three (3) residents have succumbed to the deadly virus,
- Nine (9) residents of Mercy Home's Residential Care Unit remain free of COVID-19,
- Eight (8) staff have recovered from COVID-19,
- As part of weekly testing, 43 swabs from staff were submitted to the lab yesterday (Monday). The remaining staff will be swabbed today (Tuesday), with their swabs going to the lab today.
- There have been no new clusters of three or more residents/staff with new onset of respiratory symptoms within 72 hours of each other.
- It has been one day since a new resident or staff member has tested positive.

Mercy Home recently 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

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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.

“Our goal is to promote your contact with your loved one within the guidelines we have been provided,” said Raymond yesterday. She also oversees Northern Maine General’s 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.