

COVID-19 UPDATE

January 5, 2022

Dear Employees of Mather Place,

We wanted to inform you that we received notice today that **an employee of Mather Place in Wilmette has a confirmed positive case of COVID-19**. We wish them a full recovery.

Mather Place is interviewing this individual to determine if he/she was in close contact with residents and/or employees (meaning within 6 feet of anyone for more than 15 minutes). Individuals who have been in close contact will be notified.

GET YOUR COVID-19 BOOSTER BY JANUARY 17:

This is a reminder that Mather's COVID-19 vaccination policy requires all team members, including new hires, to receive a COVID-19 vaccination and booster by January 17, 2022, unless a reasonable accommodation and exemption from the policy is approved.

- **If you have not yet received a booster, please be sure to get one and share proof of that vaccination with your HR Representative before January 17.**
- **If you have already gotten your booster, please share proof of that vaccination with your HR Representative as soon as possible.**
- If you have questions about whether you are eligible for the COVID-19 booster, please contact your HR Representative.

Why You Need a COVID-19 Booster Shot

 Vaccines are working very well to protect against severe illness, hospitalizations, and death, but effectiveness against infection decreases over time.

 Boosters increase your protection from COVID-19, including variants.

 The Omicron variant spreads more easily than the original virus.

GET A BOOSTER SHOT 6 MONTHS AFTER YOUR PFIZER-BIONTECH OR MODERNA SERIES, OR 2 MONTHS AFTER YOUR J&J SHOT.

 [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

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MYTHS & FACTS ABOUT COVID-19:

MYTH: The natural immunity I get from being sick with COVID-19 is better than the immunity I get from COVID-19 vaccination.

FACT: Getting a COVID-19 vaccination is a safer and more dependable way to build immunity to COVID-19 than getting sick with COVID-19.

MYTH: The COVID-19 vaccines cause variants.

FACT: COVID-19 vaccines do not create or cause variants of the virus that causes COVID-19. Instead, COVID-19 vaccines can help prevent new variants from emerging.

MYTH: The mRNA vaccine is not considered a vaccine.

FACT: mRNA vaccines, such as Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, work differently than other types of vaccines, but they still trigger an immune response inside your body.

If you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine or booster, we encourage you to speak with your health care provider. If you have questions about our policy as it pertains to your situation, please talk to your HR Representative.

Please take care and stay well.

Sincerely,

Katrina O'Neill
Executive Director