

To Our Community:

We are currently in the most troubling place since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

While we've been aware of this pandemic for months, we are now feeling the effects of a local surge. We know that a failure to follow public health recommendations has increased the community prevalence of this virus. It has also significantly impacted our local and regional healthcare systems, including hospital beds and emergency transport systems. Hospitals in the upper Midwest are suffering high volumes and many are filled to capacity.

As the only hospital in both Ashland and Bayfield Counties and one of the few hospitals in our region, we feel it is incumbent upon us to share our concern about many who are not following the important safety guidelines including: social distancing, wearing masks, and limiting public and social gatherings. We are extremely concerned about the rise in cases, hospitalizations, and deaths across our region and in our local community. While we are prepared to care for COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 patients, we must practice extreme caution to ensure we have the resources and staffing necessary to care for our community.

We know that many people and businesses are committed to protecting the vulnerable in our community and limiting the spread of COVID-19. The medical community commends you for your hard work and sacrifice. We also know that our small businesses and their employees are struggling. By working together as a community, wearing masks in public, social distancing, and limiting gatherings, we can keep our businesses open and our kids in school.

Now is the time for us to come together as a community. Keeping our local healthcare workers healthy is the single most critical factor in maintaining our ability to care for you. By protecting yourself, you will protect your friends, your family, your neighbors and all of us who work in healthcare.

We have dedicated ourselves to caring for you. We always have. We ask that you support us and the entire team at Memorial Medical Center by working together to reduce the impacts of COVID-19.

Sincerely,
Memorial Medical Center Medical Staff

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And many other providers
in our communities