



Department of Health

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Executive Deputy Commissioner

August 14, 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Dear Resident / Representative:

This letter is to provide you with an update on the status of the Veterans Home's efforts to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. The safety and wellbeing of all residents is our top priority. We continue to receive regular guidance from federal and state government agencies and the departments that oversee nursing home care and services. The Infection Prevention and Control Committee continued to meet at least once daily this past week to review new guidance and act accordingly. The full-time Infection Control nurse is also monitoring our efforts and working closely with the county, regional, and state health department contacts.

A total of twenty-one residents have tested positive since testing started along with one resident who was presumed to be positive. We continue to test all residents with symptoms or if a resident must test prior to a hospital appointment/procedure.

Twenty-one employees have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available. Staff continue to be tested weekly.

All Neighborhoods are under limited quarantine. Residents on limited quarantine may come out of their rooms but must stay on the Neighborhood and are encouraged to wear a mask while outside of their room. They may also go outside in designated areas if accompanied by staff. Some residents are also on isolation precautions if they have been to an outside appointment or the hospital, and they are required to remain in their room for 14-days to avoid any possible risk of spreading the virus.

We continue to work on procedures to allow for outside visits soon and will send out information as soon as it is finalized. A Zoom meeting will be held to discuss the plan with everyone. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Be well,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

Kurt D. Apthorpe, MBA, CNHA, LNHA
Administrator

NYS Veterans' Home

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