



Department of Health

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Executive Deputy Commissioner

August 7, 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 most 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.

We have an interdisciplinary team, including our Resident Council officers and members of our Board of Visitors, working on procedures to allow for outside visits soon. A letter will be sent to all representatives that will explain the process and when outside visits will start. In addition, a Zoom meeting will be held to address your concerns and questions. In the upcoming week or so, a meeting invitation will be sent out with the meeting details. All are welcome to attend the meeting.

Be well,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

Kurt D. Apthorpe, MBA, CNHA, LNHA
Administrator

NYS Veterans' Home

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