



Department of Health

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September 11, 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 guidance from federal and state government agencies and the departments that oversee nursing homes. The Infection Prevention and Control Committee continues to meet as necessary to review new guidance 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 are currently conducting facility-wide resident tests every 3-7 days until there are 14 days consecutive days of no positive employee or resident tests. We will also continue to test all residents with symptoms or if a resident must test prior to a hospital appointment/procedure.

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

The Oak and Hawthorn Neighborhoods continue to be on a higher level of precautions due to the potential contact with an employee who tested positive. These precautionary measures include requiring residents to remain in their rooms with their door closed whenever possible. Based on our current positive tests, the next possible start date for outside visitations for everyone will be October 7th.

We are sending you this update in this manner (by letter and/or email Listserv) because you have indicated that this is your preference. Please let us know if you would like to change your preferred method of communication. This communication is now part of our Pandemic Emergency Plan that will be posted on our website by September 15th.

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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