



Department of Health

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Executive Deputy Commissioner

September 17, 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 (COVID-19). The safety and wellbeing of all residents is our top priority. We 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 and act on the new guidance, and work closely with 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 conducted another facility-wide resident test this week. The current test results received have been negative.

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

We received new guidance this week that allows us to resume outside visitation as of September 24th. There are a number of changes that we will have to make, so the visitation schedule posted on our website will be updated to reflect those changes.

A video chat meeting will be held next week on Tuesday, September 22, from 3:00-4:00pm to review the new guidance and answer your questions. An invitation will be sent out early next week.

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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