



Department of Health

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Executive Deputy Commissioner

September 25, 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. Residents are tested if they are symptomatic and when required prior to a hospital procedure or medical appointment.

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

All Neighborhoods are now only quarantined to their neighborhood, and outside visits are now allowed. Residents going to outside appointments, hospital or emergency room visits will continue to be quarantined to their rooms for 14 days when they return. Please call at least 24 hours in advance and arrange an outside visit with Social Work. The Visitation Plan is posted on the Home's website.

Video chatting continues to be available. Please speak with Recreation Therapy (RT) staff about setting this up for you. RT staff also help with window visits, but please call at least 24 hours in advance.

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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