



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

October 9, 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Dear Resident / Representative:

This letter is to provide 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. The Infection Prevention and Control Committee continues to meet as necessary to review and act on guidance from the federal and state government, and work closely with health department contacts.

There have been no new positive or presumed positive cases. 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 round of facility-wide resident tests this week.

Twenty-six employees have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available. Staff are being tested at least every 7 days, similar to residents.

The Apple Neighborhood is still 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 this current positive test, the next possible start date for outside visitations for everyone will be October 14th. Scheduled outside visits may be held in the Auditorium if required by weather. Visitors will be notified where the visit will be held at the time of arrival. Please contact Social Work at least 24 hours in advance to set up a visit.

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 and they need to be arranged at least 24 hours in advance of the visit.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Be well,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

Kurt D. Apthorpe, MBA, CNHA, LNHA
Administrator

NYS Veterans' Home

4207 State Highway 220 | Oxford, NY 13830