



Department of Health

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Executive Deputy Commissioner

January 22, 2021

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 continues to be 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 regularly to review new guidance and work closely with the county, regional, and state health department contacts.

A total of thirty-nine residents have tested positive since testing started. Resident molecular (PCR) laboratory testing will continue twice a week and more often as needed. We have also deployed rapid antigen tests on-site for targeted testing.

Fifty-two employees have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available. Testing of all staff continues at an increased level. Staff are expected to test more often depending on the number of days they work each week. We are also using the rapid tests as determined by exposure and tracing of new cases.

Residents continue to be asked to stay in their room with the door closed as much as possible. The increased precautions on every Neighborhood will continue until January 27th (The COVID Quarantine Area maintains constant precautions). Residents on Apple will be able to resume window visits downstairs on January 27th. Auditorium visits are tentatively planned to start again on February 1st.

Let your Social Worker know if you have any questions or concerns.

Stay well,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

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