

ANDREW M. CUOMO

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

Commissioner

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

May 7, 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 is our top priority. The Infection Prevention and Control Committee continues to meet regularly to review new federal and state guidance and work closely with the county, regional, and state health department contacts.

A total of forty-six residents have tested positive since testing started. Resident molecular (PCR) laboratory testing continues and combined with rapid antigen testing to conduct at least two times weekly testing and more for targeted testing.

We continue to test staff at least twice weekly to identify any new cases as soon as possible. Sixty-six staff have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available.

The strict quarantine in place for Pine and Oak Neighborhoods will continue until May 11<sup>th</sup>. Compassionate visits are allowed on all neighborhoods but must be scheduled at least 72 hours prior to visiting so we can ensure staff are able to support the visit. Strict infection control practices must continue to be maintained during visits.

There are two updates to the current COVID-19 practices. We are allowing pets to be brought in for visits. Please make sure to bring a current copy of shot and veterinarian visit records. Pets are limited to the location of the visit and must be always kept in control by the visitor. Personal laundry is also allowed to be taken out and washed by families, if desired, unless the resident and/or unit are on strict quarantine.

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

Sincerely,

Moah P. Davis

Noah P. Davis Assistant Administrator NYS Veterans' Home 4207 State Highway 220 Oxford, NY 13830