



Department of Health

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Executive Deputy Commissioner

May 14, 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 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.

Residents are now allowed to move freely throughout the Home as long as face masks are worn and everyone stays socially distant (at least 6 feet apart). Visits are allowed on all neighborhoods but continue to need to 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.

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

Stay well,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

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