



## Department of Health

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Executive Deputy Commissioner

June 4, 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 at least weekly to review new federal and state guidance and work closely with the county, regional, and state health department contacts.

While we have experienced a new resident positive case today, there have been no changes to staff test results since last week. A total of forty-seven residents have tested positive and sixty-six staff have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available.

Based on the new resident positive and in accordance with guidance, we will be conducting outbreak testing of all residents and staff. During this time, all residential neighborhoods are on quarantine. Residents have been asked to remain in their rooms until the quarantine is lifted on June 18<sup>th</sup> or sooner based on test results. Residents, other than those residing on Apple, may participate in scheduled visits and will be escorted to the designated visitation area for scheduled visits. Visitors and residents are to adhere to strict source control protocols, such as wearing a well-fitting mask, maintain social distance and perform hand hygiene. Compassionate care visits will be held as necessary for all residents.

In our efforts to increase vaccination rates, we will be holding a raffle for all residents who have been vaccinated or will be vaccinated by July 9<sup>th</sup>. Rules for how to qualify for this raffle will be sent out in a separate letter, but we encourage any remaining resident to get vaccinated as soon as possible. The vaccine does work!

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

Stay well,

*Kurt D. Apthorpe*

Kurt D. Apthorpe, MBA, LNHA, CNHA  
Administrator  
NYS Veterans' Home  
4207 State Highway 220  
Oxford, NY 13830