

KATHY HOCHUL Governor HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D. Commissioner LISA PINO, M.A., J.D. Executive Deputy Commissioner

August 27, 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.

There was one positive staff case this past week, but it did not affect our current practices. A total of forty-seven residents have tested positive since testing started. Sixty-eight staff have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available.

Since last week, the Chenango County positivity rate has begun to decrease with an increase in test numbers. As of today, the 7-day average is 5.4%. We continue to test unvaccinated staff twice weekly. All unvaccinated staff are reminded that they must get vaccinated with at least one dose by September 6<sup>th</sup> with limited exemptions. Just over 80% of the employees have received at least one dose of a two-dose series or 1 dose of single dose series.

We will continue to monitor the positive cases in our community and surrounding areas, and we may make additional changes to our infection prevention and control practices as necessary.

We will notify you of any changes. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Social Worker.

Stay well,

Noah P. Davís

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