



## Department of Health

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### **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update**

Dear Resident / Representative:

As we begin the holiday weekend, we want to bring you up to date on the current situation at the Veterans Home. We are grateful to all of our families for your perseverance and strength throughout 2021.

The Veterans Home's efforts to prevent the spread of the coronavirus continue. The safety and wellbeing of all residents is our top priority. The Infection Prevention and Control Committee continues to meet at least weekly to respond to our current situation, review new guidance, and work closely with our health department contacts.

We had three new positive staff cases this past week. This is a total of eighty-four residents and one hundred and seven staff who have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available.

We conducted two tests of residents and required staff to test three times this week. We will continue testing next week and will alert you of any positive results.

The transmission rate is still high in Chenango County, so please bear this in mind when planning visits. If you are planning to have a large group visit, please call and check with your Social Worker before visiting so we can ensure that there is an appropriate space available for you. The living room pods on the neighborhoods are generally reserved for resident group activities. There are other spaces that may be available in the Home, so please call ahead to confirm.

Due to the continuing high community transmission rate, visitors must wear face masks and other issued personal protective equipment, such as face shields, at all times while visiting residents. Residents are also being asked to wear a mask at all times when outside of resident rooms or when closer than 6 feet from others.

Please contact your Social Worker if you have any questions or for further assistance.

We wish all our residents, families and friends who celebrate Christmas much happiness and hope. Wishing everyone good health and joy and may your life be filled with warmth and good cheer throughout the New Year.

Respectfully,

*Kurt D. Apthorpe*

Kurt D. Apthorpe, MBA, LNHA, CNHA  
Administrator

NYS Veterans' Home

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