



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

MARY T. BASSETT, M.D., M.P.H.
Acting Commissioner

KRISTIN M. PROUD
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

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Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Dear Resident / Representative:

As we begin the new year, 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 ten new positive staff cases and no new resident cases this past week. This is a total of eighty-six residents and one hundred and twenty-six staff who have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available.

Residents on the Oak Neighborhood remain on quarantine. Oak residents should remain in their rooms as much as possible or wear a mask at all times when out of their rooms.

The New York State Department of Health is providing paper masks for visitors. We will still be providing other face masks, face shields and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), if required, to visitors. Visitors and residents will be required to wear masks in order for staff to be in the resident room to provide care. While fully vaccinated visitors and residents are allowed to take these off while in the resident's room with the door closed, everyone will still need to put them back on when staff are in the room.

All other residents are being asked to wear a mask at all times when outside of resident rooms or when closer than 6 feet from others.

We will continue testing residents and staff at least three times next week and will alert you of any positive results.

As always, please contact your Social Worker if you have any questions or for further assistance.

Respectfully,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

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