



Department of Health

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Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

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Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Dear Resident / Family Member:

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. We continue to work with the Department of Health and other agencies such as the CDC, CMS, and Westchester County Department of Health on keeping the virus out of the facility.

Currently, the community transmission rate is 8.26% which continues to show a downward trend from our last update. As of today, we have fourteen positive residents in-house. Since the on-set of the pandemic and the availability of testing, we have had one hundred and fifty-one residents, and two-hundred and twenty-nine staff test positive.

The facility is in outbreak testing, and we continue to test residents and staff per state and federal guidelines. As you know as well, all residents and staff have been fully vaccinated, and most all of those who are eligible have received their booster shots. We continue to work with residents and staff to ensure all are boosted.

The recent positive residents have all resided on the same unit and have been transferred to the cohort unit for close observation. Those residents remaining on the affected unit (Eagle Point) are on containment for safety and have been asked to remain in their room and wear a well fitted mask during staff and visitor encounters, as tolerated. Appropriate social distancing and hand hygiene are also encouraged.

Although visitors are welcome, we encourage family and friends to consider virtual visits during this outbreak to help us contain the spread of the virus. However, if you plan to visit, please note that visits will take place in the resident's room. Visitors to the contained unit (Eagle Point) will be provided with appropriate PPEs to wear, such as a KN-94 facemask and a face shield, for the duration of the visit.

For those visiting residents on the quarantine unit (Fairhaven), visits will take place in the resident's room and PPEs, such as a KN-94 facemask, face shield, and gown, will be provided to you and must be worn for the duration of your visit. Visitors must remain inside the resident's room for the visit.

As a reminder, we will continue to provide testing for those visitors who do not have SARS-COV-2 test results. Testing will be provided Monday through Sunday between the hours of 10:00am and 4:00pm. The tests are only for the purpose of visiting your loved one. The facility will not provide documentation of this test to you. Please note as well that if you visit outside of these hours, you must be prepared to provide a copy of your SARS COV-2 test results obtained by antigen (rapid or at home) or PCR test.

As always, thank you for your patience and understanding. Please contact your Social Worker if you have any questions or for further assistance.

Very respectfully yours,

Vincent Velella

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