



## Department of Health

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

Dear Resident / Family Member:

After an extended period of time without COVID-19 in the Veterans Home, we are lately experiencing an uptick of the virus among our residents. This appears to have occurred shortly after the spring holidays of Easter, Passover, and Spring break, and simultaneous with the increase in transmission rates in many of the upstate counties. The medical team is closely monitoring each resident and treating residents as needed with antiviral, antibacterial and other medications as necessary. Most of the residents are recovering and do not have signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Also, the facility has adequate supplies of PPEs to care for the residents.

As a result of this uptick of the virus and working towards its eradication, we strongly encourage visitors to help us adhere to the core principles of infection control as recommended by the CDC, CMS and DOH (use of face masks, handwashing or use of hand sanitizers and social distancing). In this connection, we require that all visitors wear a surgical mask when visiting. The Security Officers will provide you with a mask upon arrival if you do not have one. Although not mandated, we also recommend that visitors wear a face shield while walking through the facility and on the units. Again, you will be provided with one if you require it. Visitors do not have to wear face shields while in resident rooms.

Consistent with CDC regulation <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-39-nh-revised.pdf> we ask that visitors not walk around the different areas and hallways of the facility but go directly to the resident room or designated visitation area.

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

Thank you for working with us to keep our residents safe.

Very respectfully yours,

*Nancy Baa-Danso*

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