



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

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

KRISTIN M. PROUD
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

May 27, 2022

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Dear Resident / Representative:

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

Although we have not had a positive resident test result this past week, we readmitted a resident to the Oak Neighborhood after a lengthy hospital stay with two negative COVID test results. Unfortunately, within less than a day of the resident's return to the Veterans Home, testing at the local hospital emergency department resulted in a positive test result. These results are reported by the hospital. Upon return to the Veterans Home, the resident has been placed on the Pine Neighborhood isolation cohort.

We had three positive staff results this past week. The staff totals were added incorrectly over the past two weeks; this has been corrected. We have eighty-seven residents and one hundred and ninety-five new staff who have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available. Due to these new positive cases, outbreak status remains in place until June 8th. Outbreak testing of residents switched to Thursday and staff will continue to test twice a week, and we will alert you of any positive results.

The community transmission rate is still at "high" levels. Residents should continue to try not to leave their rooms as much as possible due to the outbreak status and due to the high County virus transmission rate. Residents should wear a mask at all times when out of their rooms or when closer than 6 feet from others. We also ask families and visitors to wear a mask at all times while visiting and please go directly to the resident's room or visiting area and directly out after visiting.

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

During this Memorial Day weekend, we thank our veterans and families for your sacrifice and service to our nation. We are honored and privileged to serve you.

Respectfully,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

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