



Department of Health

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July 23, 2021

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update and Visitation

Dear Resident / Representative:

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. The Infection Prevention and Control Committee continues to meet at least weekly to review new federal and state guidance and work closely with the county, regional, and state health department contacts.

There were no new positive cases this past week. A total of forty-seven residents have tested positive since testing started. Sixty-seven staff have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available.

Screening of all staff and visitors will continue. COVID-19 virus testing will be done monthly for unvaccinated staff, for any staff reporting symptoms prior to working, and will be strongly recommended for unvaccinated visitors. Resident testing will be targeted based on symptoms and if there is a positive case in the Home of a resident or a staff person.

Vaccinated visitors will now be allowed to have food and beverages while visiting assigned vaccinated residents. This will be limited to resident rooms or assigned outside areas during a visit. When visitors call to schedule a visit, visitors will now be asked for proof of vaccination.

After receipt of a visitor's vaccination status, a sticker such as this: will be provided and must be worn with the visitor ID badge. Please share this update with others who may be visiting the Home.



Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Social Worker.

Stay well,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

Kurt D. Apthorpe, MBA, LNHA, CNHA
Administrator

NYS Veterans' Home

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