



Department of Health

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Executive Deputy Commissioner

August 28, 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

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. We continue to receive guidance from federal and state government agencies and the departments that oversee nursing home care and services. The Infection Prevention and Control Committee continues to meet as necessary to review new guidance and working closely with the county, regional, and state health department contacts.

A total of twenty-one residents have tested positive since testing started along with one resident who was presumed to be positive. We continue to test all residents with symptoms or if a resident must test prior to a hospital appointment/procedure.

Twenty-one employees have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available. Staff continue to be tested weekly.

All Neighborhoods are under limited quarantine. Residents on limited quarantine may come out of their rooms but must stay on the Neighborhood and are encouraged to wear a mask while outside of their room. They may also go outside in designated areas if accompanied by staff. Some residents are also on isolation precautions if they have been to an outside appointment or the hospital, and they are required to remain in their room for 14-days to avoid any possible risk of spreading the virus.

The Home is pleased to let you know that we are open to new admissions and plan to begin admitting as early as next week. In addition to meeting our nursing home admission criteria, each applicant will provide a negative COVID-19 test result prior to admission. Upon admission, the resident will spend time in quarantine in a secure observation area on the Pine Neighborhood until cleared to be moved in with our general population. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Be well,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

Kurt D. Apthorpe, MBA, CNHA, LNHA
Administrator

NYS Veterans' Home

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