

# Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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Dear LISVH Family Member:

With the week coming to a close, we wanted to update you on the current situation at the Long Island State Veterans Home. We are now on Day 38 of our fight against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and all the complications it brings to those of us in a long-term care setting.

As of this writing, 57 residents have tested positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Fifty-four are here at the Veterans Home and three are receiving treatment at Stony Brook University Hospital. Currently, there are five residents considered PUIs and are awaiting test results. On a positive note this week, seven veterans returned to the Home from Stony Brook University Hospital. While we still anticipate many recoveries, the timeframe for those we care for will take longer than the average population.

We sadly report that 32 residents have passed since the beginning of the outbreak on March 10, 2020. A majority of these veterans had multiple comorbidities, which likely contributed to their demise due to the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Our staff continues to deeply grieve the loss of our veterans, all beloved members of the LISVH community. As we continue to have our national freedoms, we know that none of this would be possible without the valor and courage of those who chose to define our great nation throughout history.

It is important to realize that this pandemic brings new medical challenges to our staff every day. With new demands and new protocols occurring hour-to-hour, we are responding rapidly. We are working hard to stay ahead of the curve and address the most pressing issues. In an effort to control the spread of the virus, we have made a number of room changes. We have done this to appropriately cohort residents, as well as the staff that cares for them. Since the beginning, we have made major efforts to prevent the spread of this obscure and highly contagious virus.

Since the first day of this outbreak, we are very proud of all of our staff. They have all responded valiantly to the task at hand and have stepped up regardless of their job title. As you know, we have an amazing staff of 675 full-time, part-time and per-diem employees. As of today, there are 37 employees who are currently positive for novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Since the beginning, 46 have test negative for the virus. Also, seven employees are considered PUI and are awaiting results at home. Staffing levels still have not been impacted due to employees testing positive for the virus. Thank you again for all your ongoing support of our caregivers.

Also, we can report that we remain in good standing with our current levels of personal protective equipment. We have had some major deliveries throughout the week and all employees have what they need to protect themselves during their shift. Earlier today at his daily press conference, Governor Cuomo revealed that nursing homes and assisted living facilities remain the most vulnerable places for the novel Coronavirus. We know this and you know it as well. That being said, we will continue to fight this pandemic and always be forthright with information. Many of you have called us and we are happy to respond, always providing the latest information.

In closing, we hope you and your family remain safe in your homes. We have all witnessed firsthand the outcome of this pandemic. Be assured, we will continue to fight.

Best,

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