

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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April 24, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we end week seven of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Long Island State Veterans Home remains devoted to its core mission of “Caring for Americas Heroes.” We remain proud of our courageous staff and appreciate all the support our families have given us during this unprecedented event.

We have 65 residents who have currently tested positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Sixty-one are here at the Veterans Home and four are receiving treatment at Stony Brook University Hospital. There is also one resident at the Home who is considered a Person Under Investigation (PUIs) and is awaiting test results. PUIs are people who may be exhibiting signs or symptoms of the virus, or may have been exposed. Based on the dynamic situation of the virus, we continue to cohort residents based on their novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) status. In an effort to provide a safe environment for our residents, we are maintaining communication with the New York State Department of Health. We have received full support of our current infection control and cohorting plans. Some of our families have experienced a room change for their loved one, and we want to say thank you again for your full cooperation. Privacy considerations are still our top priority, so please note that we can only share information about your family member and no one else. We appreciate your understanding as we adhere to HIPAA Privacy Rules and Regulations for healthcare facilities.

We sadly report that 52 have passed since the outbreak began 45 days ago on March 10, 2020. As painful as it is for us to report, we remain committed to sharing total information with all our families. We will never waiver from complete transparency as it relates to the devastation and grief caused by this global pandemic. Our staff continues to deeply mourn the loss of our residents. Each veteran who has passed reminds us that the freedoms and liberty we enjoy today cannot be taken for granted. Their selfless sacrifice of military service also reminds us why we remain strong as a nation. We honor the families and the suffering they have endured during these tragic times.

Staffing remains strong and employee morale remains high. All of us remain very proud of the entire team; they are all healthcare heroes. Since March 10, we have tested 126 of our employees for the novel Coronavirus COVID-19. Fifty-seven have tested positive and 61 have tested negative for the virus. At this time, we have 11 PUIs awaiting their results at home. Fortunately, 23 of those who have tested positive have fully recovered and have returned to the Home.

Our staff remains fully equipped as it relates to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This week brought additional deliveries and donations of masks, coveralls, face shields and gowns. Having the proper tools to do their job allows our staff to remain focused on their primary mission – your loved one.

Please know that our letters to you will continue throughout this public health crisis. In addition, based on Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order 202.18, we will also maintain a daily notification of our novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) numbers on this website. Please check our website daily for these important updates.

Our families remain in our hearts and minds as we continue this unwanted battle. Please know that we are providing comfort to your loved one in your absence. Furthermore, as we care for our heroes, we are also here to address any specific concerns you may have. Don’t hesitate to call us if we can provide additional information. Continue to stay safe, stay strong and stay home.

Sincerely,

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