

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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Dear LISVH Family Member:

This past weekend marked our Memorial Day Remembrance here at the Long Island State Veterans Home. We hope you had an opportunity to watch our virtual Memorial Day Ceremony put together by our very own Marissa Lien, from the Therapeutic Recreation Department. While quite different from our annual Memorial Day Ceremony held in the Multi-Purpose Room, the virtual Ceremony was enjoyed by our residents on our closed circuit television channel. A special thank you to our elected officials for remotely participating in the Ceremony. The Ceremony can be accessed on the LISVH Facebook page as well as on YouTube.

As you will recall from our May 5, 2020 letter to you, we received an unannounced COVID-19 Infection Control Survey. The Survey Team conducted a thorough review of our policies and procedures, reviewed our PPE supplies, toured our entire building and interviewed our staff. Today, we received a written summation from the New York State Department of Health. We are extremely proud to report that the Survey Team had no findings and deemed the Home to be free of any deficiencies.

Also, in another notification today from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), they reaffirmed our 5-Star overall rating. Being a 5-Star facility matters and we are pleased to share this bit of good news with our families. We would like to thank our staff for their overall commitment to our veterans, as we continue to provide the care our residents have earned and deserve.

Currently, we have 55 residents that fall into the category of positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Fifty-two are here at the Home and three are receiving treatment at Stony Brook University Hospital. Please note that we also have 66 residents who recovered from the virus. Once again, we are conducting swab testing of all our residents. We hope to see our COVID-positive number continue to go down and our resident recovery number continue to go up. As we have always done, we will inform you about test results as they become available.

Earlier this morning, we heard the latest overall novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) numbers for Suffolk County. To date, the county has had 43,625 positive cases, which has led to 1,850 deaths. Sadly, 80 of the deaths have occurred here at the Home. We continue to grieve for our families, as each veteran who has passed has represented the best of what our nation has to offer. Their selfless service helped us remain the greatest country on earth; we will never forget these heroes.

For the past 14 days, we have been complying with the Governor’s Executive Order to swab test our employees twice a week for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). We have begun in-house testing and thus far the process is going well. Thankfully, our employees are dutifully complying, as this additional testing helps to reveal any worker who may be asymptomatic while having the virus. Since March 10, 2020, we have had 98 of our 675 employees test positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Fifty-four employees have fully recovered and are back to work, while 44 are recuperating at home.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supplies remain adequate in all categories and we continue to secure additional products for future use. Our employees remain vigilant and valiant in providing necessary services, and they are fully protected when caring for your loved one. We remain committed to providing the right tools for employees to always perform their duties.

Like you, we continue to watch the metrics that will enable Long Island to reopen. We remain cautiously optimistic. We continue to await guidance from the Governor and the New York State Department of Health as it relates to the normal operations for long-term care facilities. We will share all information as it becomes available. As always, please know that we are here to answer your questions. Please stay safe.

Sincerely,

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