

# Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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July 14, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we complete day 126 against the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), we would like to update you on the latest at the Long Island State Veterans Home. We remain committed to providing you with timely and comprehensive information regarding this ongoing public health crisis, how it affects your loved one and its impact on your family.

This afternoon, we received the laboratory results performed on July 8, 2020 indicating that a new resident tested positive for COVID-19. The resident was immediately cohorted to our COVID positive unit. We currently have six residents who remain positive for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). All six residents are asymptomatic and continue to rest comfortably here at the Home. We continue to test on a weekly basis all COVID-19 positive residents as well as those who have not had the virus. We are optimistic that the remaining six residents will return to negative test results in the next few weeks. We are pleased to report that no residents have passed away from the virus since our last letter.

We have had 135 employees test positive for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) since March 10, 2020. Thirteen employees are currently recuperating at their homes, while 122 are considered fully recovered and have returned to work. Our last employee to test positive for the virus occurred on July 8, 2020. Please know that we continue to swab test all our employees once a week. We are committed to be in full compliance with the Governor's Executive Order on nursing home employee testing that is to remain in effect until August 8, 2020. Testing of employees continues to provide us with useful data and we are grateful to the staff for their full cooperation.

As we discussed in our previous letter, the New York State Department of Health released their metrics for nursing homes to reopen for visitation. The July 10, 2020 New York State Department of Health Advisory and Guidelines information is available on their website or at [https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/07/health-advisory\\_nursing-home-visitation\\_final-7.pdf](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/07/health-advisory_nursing-home-visitation_final-7.pdf). As required by this advisory, we are in the process of submitting our Nursing Home NY Forward Safety Plan for reopening. The key takeaway is that the New York State Department of Health is following the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) mandate that visiting can begin 28 days after the last known resident or employee case at the Home. For us, that date was July 8, 2020. The last resident and employee to test positive both occurred on that day. Twenty-eight days would take us to Wednesday August 5, 2020. For now, we can anticipate that this could be our date to reopen for visiting. Again, if we get a new case (resident or employee), the clock

will reset to an additional 28 days. The coronavirus remains ambiguous and elusive. Please keep this in mind as we go forward as plans may change.

We appreciate your ongoing patience as well as tremendous support. Please know that we remain devoted to our mission to provide “Care for America’s Heroes.” If we can be of further service, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

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