

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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July 31, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As July ends, we want to give you the latest information as we combat the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Although our summer is different this year, we remain committed to battling this wicked and invisible virus as it continues to attack our county, our state, and our nation. Our caregivers are vigilant and valiant in the fight.

As you know, our current resident population is free of the virus. We had another good week with no new cases of the virus amongst our veterans. We continue to test as needed, and we are pleased with our current situation. Our residents remain cohorted according to their status, many of them in the post-recovery phase of the virus.

Our employees had a good week as well. We have had no new cases amongst our workforce. The numbers remain the same for this important group. As most of you know, we have 675 employees. Since March 10, 2020, 138 employees have tested positive for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Nine asymptomatic employees are currently in quarantine at home and 129 employees have fully recovered and returned to work. We continue to stress the proper precautions with our staff and encourage them to also engage in safe practices outside of the Home.

We have identified two important dates in August. First, on Friday, August 7, 2020, we will begin “Operation Sunshine” whereby we will allow residents to enjoy some sunshine (or rain with an umbrella) outside the building and get some fresh air. While this sounds simple, this activity requires a strategic coordination effort within our various staff departments, and must be a monitored activity. Second, since we have had no new cases of the virus, we remain on target to have limited family visiting beginning on Tuesday, August 18, 2020. More details on arranging visits will be announced in next Friday’s Letter to the Families. We will have our Social Work Department take the lead on organizing visitation. Again, visits will be highly coordinated and organized events that involve everyone’s commitment to safety in this ongoing battle. These precautionary measures are imperative, as we do not want any new cases that will force us to reset the clock for another 28 days. Please know how excited we are to eventually have you back at the Home!

In closing, we want you to know that we are constantly educating ourselves on the best practices to defeat the virus. Like you, we continue to monitor the efforts of scientists as well as medical researchers who are developing new treatments and vaccines. Stony Brook Medicine will be playing a role in this exciting challenge. If we can be of further service to you or your loved one, please do not hesitate to call us.

Sincerely,

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