

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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July 7, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we begin this week at the Long Island State Veterans Home, we want to update you on the battle against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). According to the Suffolk County Department of Health, there have been 351,133 COVID-19 tests performed since the beginning of the global pandemic in our County. Of those individuals screened, 41,685 were determined to be positive for the Coronavirus comprising 11.9% of the total population tested. Regrettably, we have also seen 1,984 fatalities from the virus in Suffolk County. We share these numbers with you, so that you have a sense of where we stand as a region.

Specifically at the current time, our Home has 11 residents who are positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). All eleven are here at the Home and have been cohorted appropriately. In addition, we have 130 residents considered fully recovered, as they remain completely asymptomatic and are beyond the 21 days from initial diagnosis with the Coronavirus. Yesterday, we sadly lost a 95-year-old World War II Air Force veteran who had multiple comorbidities in addition to the virus. We grieve with his family and we are honored to have cared for him for more than 7 years. As an important member of the LISVH community, we will forever be grateful for his military service to our great nation.

Since this public health crisis began for us on March 10, 2020, we have had 134 employees test positive for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Twenty are currently recuperating at home and 114 employees have fully recovered and have returned to work. The Governor's current Executive Order (E.O.) to swab test all nursing home employees in our State ends on July 9, 2020. We strongly believe that this E.O. will be extended. Please know that we will continue to be in full compliance with all federal, state and local mandates involving the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

While we were hoping to update you on the future of visiting at the Home, we still await direction from the New York State Department of Health. We remain optimistic about our current numbers, as we continue to perform additional swab testing on both our residents and the employees that care for them. Please know that when we receive any additional information from New York State, we will immediately share it with you—our families. In the meantime, please continue to practice the 3 W's: *wear* a mask; *wash* your hands; and *watch* your distance.

Your ongoing safety is important to all of us here at the Home. Please call if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

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