

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

100 Patriots Road
Stony Brook, NY 11790-3300
P 631.444.8500
F 631.444.8575
LISVH.org

August 18, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we complete day 161 of our battle against the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), we want to notify you on the latest happenings here at the Long Island State Veterans Home. We remain committed to open and honest communication with our families and friends. Furthermore, we appreciate all your ongoing support during this public health crisis.

As you are aware, we are constantly testing for the virus among our resident population and our dedicated staff members. There are times when testing results may take days to come back. As a result, the information we release to you may be slightly delayed. On August 11, 2020, we had one resident and one employee test positive for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Please know that the resident who tested positive is asymptomatic and has been properly isolated and retested as well. His second test came back negative. While this is wonderful news, according to protocol, we must consider his COVID-19 status as positive at this time. As it relates to our workforce, we have had 141 employees test positive for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) since March 10, 2020. This afternoon, we received notification that an employee has a positive result from a test performed on August 11, 2020 (as previously mentioned). The employee is asymptomatic and quarantining at home. An additional five employees are quarantining at their homes, while 135 staff members are fully recovered and have returned to work.

It is now necessary for us to reset the clock 28 days as per New York State Department of Health guidelines. We are now shooting for Tuesday, September 8, 2020 to begin limited visitation for our families. Please understand that if we have any additional positive tests for the virus going forward, we will have to reset the clock again.

One bright light here at the Home has been “Operation Sunshine.” Our residents are reconnecting with the great outdoors on a regular basis, and a change of venue has been a real plus for those we are so honored to care for every day. Due to multiple setbacks on visiting, we are considering scheduled window visits for our families. We will continue to work out the details and we plan to have more information for you soon. We again thank you for all your steadfast cooperation during this public health crisis. We recognize how agonizing this situation has been, and we want to come up with some creative alternative solutions that allow our residents to reunite with their loved ones. Please stay tuned.

Additionally, we want to inform you that we continue to exceed the New York State Department of Health's minimum requirements for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) on hand. In order to meet this requirement, we have had to secure outside storage space to accommodate a 60-day supply of surgical face masks, N-95 respirator masks, face shields, eye goggles, and disposable gowns. From the very beginning of this pandemic, we have always been committed to providing our staff with the proper protection they, as well as, your loved one deserve. This commitment stands firm.

Please know that we are available to answer your questions. Never hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Fred S. Sganga, FACHE
Executive Director
631-444-8606

Jonathan Spier, MHA, LNHA
Deputy Executive Director
631-444-8615

Frank Cervo, MD
Medical Director
631-444-8602

Rona Schlau, RN
Director of Nursing
631-444-8707

Jean Brand, MSW
Director of ADHC
631-444-8530