

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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August 28, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we enter into the final days of August, we want to continue our commitment of clear and constant communication to you - our valued family member. Today represents day number 171 in our ongoing battle against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). We are completing our sixth month of responding to the virus and we will soon be at the half-year mark.

Earlier today, we received results that one of our residents tested positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). We continue to routinely test residents for the virus as part of our ongoing surveillance program. The resident who tested positive is asymptomatic and resting comfortably here at the Long Island State Veterans Home. He was properly cohorted and will be quarantined for a two-week period. Unfortunately, we must reset the clock for limited family visitation 28 days from his testing date, as per state and federal guidelines. Our new visiting start-up date will be Wednesday, September 23, 2020.

On the employee front, things remain stable. We have had no new employee positive cases for the virus since August 19, 2020. A review of our staff numbers indicates that 142 of our 675 employees have tested positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) since March 10, 2020. Four of these employees remain asymptomatic, but are on a mandatory 14-day quarantine at home. One hundred thirty eight have fully recovered from the virus and have returned to work. Please know that we continue to stress the **3W's** with our staff, even while off duty. We stress that they should ***Wear A Mask, Wash Their Hands, and Watch Their Distance*** when in their homes and outside in their communities. Preventing the spread of the virus is a 24/7 effort for all of us at the Long Island State Veterans Home.

On a highly positive note, "window visits" started yesterday and we have received rave reviews from our residents as well as their families. It was great to see visitors return to our campus and for them to see their loved ones up close again. Please know that after every visit, all chairs and windows undergo a deep cleaning and sanitizing protocol. We are grateful to our Environmental Services team, who remain key players in the fight against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). While we did have a resident test positive for the virus earlier today, we have confirmed with the New York State Department of Health that we can continue "window visits" with the exception of a few units (for a temporary period). If your loved one is on an impacted unit, you will receive notification from your Social Worker.

Hair care is also back in full swing and Mary (our Barber) and Anna Marie (our Beautician) are very busy taking care of our men and women. Please know that they are our employees and get swab tested for the virus weekly. They also have strict protocols between haircuts and are on the forefront of safe practices while delivering a much-needed service. Grooming maintains dignity, and all our resident appreciate and deserve the return of this service.

With September and Labor Day just around the corner, please know how committed we remain to providing care to your loved one. We appreciate your ongoing confidence in our Home and remain ready to assist you in any way.

Sincerely,

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