

# Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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September 15, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

Now that we have reached the halfway mark in the month of September, we want to continue to provide you with information on our current situation at the Long Island State Veterans Home. We continue to battle the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and respond to all the challenges it presents to us.

We have just completed our fourth unannounced inspection from the New York State Department of Health. Our focused review involved infection control practices and how we handle the many challenges brought about by this elusive virus. Over the course of two days, five surveyors reviewed our policies and procedures, toured all our nursing units, interviewed various employees and checked on our PPE inventory. We are again pleased to report that the survey team had no findings. This means that the Long Island State Veterans continues to meet New York State Department of Health standards and requirements.

As it relates to the status of the virus in the Home, we currently have four residents who are positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). All four are asymptomatic at this time. Three are here at the Home and one is being treated at Stony Brook University Hospital for a non-COVID-19 related medical issue. They are properly cohorted and quarantined as well. Please know that we continue to regularly test all residents as per federal and state guidelines.

We remain stable with our workforce. There have been no changes since last Friday. Since March 10, 2020, 146 of our 675 employees have tested positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Five employees remain asymptomatic and are quarantining at their homes. One hundred forty-one have fully recovered and have returned to the Long Island State Veterans Home. Our staff continue to comply with the Governor's Executive Order that mandates weekly testing for all nursing home workers in New York State. The mandate is in effect until October 4, 2020. We remain grateful to our staff for their full compliance with this important requirement.

We are happy to bring you some good news. Earlier today, The New York State Department of Health revised the facility visitation guidelines for when a resident or employee tests positive in a nursing home. The Department of Health has officially reduced the timeframe requirement for the

absence of any new COVID-19 positive cases in the nursing home from 28 days to 14 days. That being said, here are the newest start dates for your information:

**Operation Sunshine: Friday, September 25**  
**Limited Face-to-Face Visitation: Friday, September 25**

Your social worker will be contacting you regarding visitation with your loved one.

Lastly, we are expecting delivery of influenza vaccine sometime this week. Our medical services and nursing teams will be administering the vaccines shortly. Having your loved one protected for seasonal flu remains a high priority for us. We encourage you to get vaccinated as well. As you may know, this vaccine can help: from getting the flu; by making it less severe if you do; and/or from spreading the flu to your family and friends.

In closing, please know that we appreciate your patience with the process of managing a public health crisis. We appreciate your ongoing words of encouragement and support. If we can provide additional information, please do not hesitate to call us.

Sincerely,

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