

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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LISVH.org

September 22, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we complete day 196 in our fight against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), we want to continue to provide you with the latest information on our situation at the Long Island State Veterans Home. When we began these biweekly updates, we had no idea of the timeline this pandemic would present. We stand committed to our goal of ongoing and transparent communication.

As it relates to our resident population, our situation remains stable. We have one resident that tested positive on September 10, 2020, and remains asymptomatic here at the Home. The resident and his roommate (also asymptomatic) have been properly quarantined and cohorted in separate rooms. If all continues to go well, both individuals will come off quarantine and be transferred to appropriate nursing units by the end of this week. Please note that we will continue to test and cohort our resident population as per federal and state requirements. Weekly testing helps us stay ahead of the virus and take appropriate action as needed.

Over the weekend, we received notification that an employee tested positive on September 16, 2020. Testing results often take a few days before they become available to us. As of today, 147 of our 675 employees have tested positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Three employees are currently quarantining at home and are, thankfully, asymptomatic at this time. One hundred forty-four employees have fully recovered and have returned to work. All employees continue to get tested weekly as per the Governor's extended Executive Order. We want to continue to acknowledge all employees for their ongoing diligence with this mandated requirement.

We now have a new target date for Limited Face-to-Face Visitation. If we have no further resident and /or employee tests positive, we will resume the visitation on **Thursday, October 1, 2020**. With the cooler inclement weather upon us, we are planning for modified indoor visits with you. Our current challenge is identifying appropriate indoor space for this important function. We are submitting our visitation plan to the New York State Department of Health for approval and will have more information by the end of the week. All requests for visitation scheduling will be coordinated by the Social Worker assigned to your loved one. Please be reminded that all visitors will be required to show proof of a negative novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) test within seven days of their visit. Securing a test is the responsibility of the visitor and documentation must be provided

to us before your visit can begin. Also, we will be permitting visitors under the age of 18, if they are accompanied by an adult. Those under 18 need to show proof of a negative test as well. Please be aware that the New York State Department of Health provides no-cost drive through testing at the South P Commuter Parking Lot at Stony Brook University. Testing is by appointment only and very user friendly. They are open six days a week (Monday through Saturday). Please call 888-364-3065 to schedule your appointment. Test results can take anywhere from two to six days to get back. We appreciate your ongoing patience and fortitude as we deal with the unpredictability of the virus.

Additionally, we are happy to report that the outdoor therapeutic recreation program, “Operation Sunshine” and barber & beauty shop services will be able to resume on Friday, September 25th. We look forward to residents enjoying the beautiful Fall season.

With influenza season approaching, our medical services and nursing teams have started administering the flu vaccine to our residents. 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 remain available to all of you. We are a phone call away. Please continue to remain safe.

Sincerely,

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