

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

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Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we reach day 318 in the battle against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), we want to continue to update our families on the current situation here at the Long Island State Veterans Home. We continue to deal with the aftermath of the post-holiday surge in the virus cases among our residents and staff members. We would like to share the COVID-19 numbers as of today:

USA	15.5 million cases	290,000 deaths
NY State	1.16 million cases	39,600 deaths
Suffolk County	71,000 cases	2,097 deaths

We are hoping that the recent increase in numbers will begin to slow down based upon the current rollout of the vaccine.

Today, we have 46 residents who are currently positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Thirty residents are here at the Home, all properly cohorted and quarantined. Sixteen residents are currently receiving treatment at Stony Brook University Hospital. We are saddened to report that one of our veterans passed away from COVID-19 since we last wrote to you. Our most recent loss is an 87-year old Korean War Veteran who had multiple comorbidities. The LISVH community sends its deepest condolences to the family of this veteran. His courage, bravery and duty to our country reminds us of the importance of our Armed Forces and the role they play in maintaining peace around the world.

The number of LISVH staff who have contracted the virus has once again increased. To date, we have had 222 of our 675 employees test positive since March 10, 2020. Currently we have 44 caregivers and ancillary staff members who are currently quarantining at Home. We now have 178 employees who have fully recovered and have returned to work. Swab testing for employees remains robust and frequent testing will continue in the weeks ahead.

We also want to provide you with an update on the “BAM” program. This past Saturday, we administered the Bamlanivimab monoclonal antibody treatment to two residents who met the criteria for administration. Both residents responded well and were able to avoid being hospitalized for treatment. We would like to acknowledge the collaboration of our physicians, nurses and pharmacists in this important endeavor. As the federal government allows more treatment modalities in skilled nursing facilities, we will assess the situation and see if we can facilitate additional treatment options for our residents.

Lastly, we are six days away from the return of the CVS Pharmacy team. On January 18, 19, 20, 2021, all residents and employees who received their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine will get their second booster shot during these three days. We will be reaching out to all Health Care Proxies to obtain a new consent for a second dose. You should be receiving an email or phone call to obtain the second consent. Thank you again for your cooperation in this important process. If we can be of further assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

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

Jonathan Spier, MHA, LNH
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