

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:

With this week coming to a close, we want to once again bring you up to date on our current situation at the Long Island State Veterans Home. We continue to battle the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), especially as we deal with the post-holiday surge of illness in our region. As we continue to focus on your loved one during this ongoing global pandemic, our goal is to provide you with the latest information we have.

Today we received an unannounced inspection from the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). This was the eighth focused infection control review. The three-member survey team spent a full day overseeing medical records as well as performing a comprehensive assessment of our policies, procedures and practices related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The NYSDOH reviewed protocols for infection control, cleaning and disinfection and COVID-19 testing of our residents and staff. The surveyors conducted a complete physical inspection of all nursing units and interviewed both residents and staff members. In addition, the NYSDOH inspected our current inventory of personal protective equipment and reviewed established mechanisms to maintain adequate supplies. Once again, we are pleased to report that the survey team had no recommendations or findings. As a result of this review, the Long Island State Veterans Home continues to be in compliance with NYSDOH standards and requirements. Please know that we value these unannounced reviews, as they help to validate the care we provide to our veterans every day.

To date, we have 46 residents who are positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Twenty-eight are here at the Home, all properly cohorted and quarantined. Eighteen residents are receiving treatment at Stony Brook University Hospital. Sadly, we must report that one of our veterans passed away with this virus since we last wrote to you. Our most recent loss involves an 86-year old Navy veteran who served our great nation during peacetime. This veteran had multiple comorbidities in addition to the virus. Whether we are in a conflict or preserving peace around the world, we owe a debt of gratitude to the brave women and men who have served in our armed forces. We, at the LISVH, grieve the loss of this veteran and send our deepest condolences to the family.

We have had 234 employees test positive for the virus since March 10, 2020. Currently, 53 are quarantining at their homes, in full compliance with all federal, state and local regulations. We have had 181 caregivers and ancillary staff members fully recover from the virus and each of them has returned to work. All employees remain vigilant with their swab testing requirements. We monitor their results very closely and take the appropriate actions necessary at all times for the overall well-being of everyone in our LISVH community.

We are ready for next week's actions. CVS Pharmacy will be returning to give the second dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to all eligible residents and staff. In addition, newly qualified residents and additional employees will receive their first dose as well. We look forward to working with the team from CVS Pharmacy and believe our second round rollout will be just as successful as the first round rollout in late December.

In closing, we ask you to remain compliant with the 3 W's:

Wear Your Mask!
Wash Your Hands!
Watch Your Distance!

The novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) remains elusive and wicked. Your actions in the community do matter. If we can be of further service to you, please feel free to contact us.

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