

# Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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January 29, 2021

Dear LISVH Family Member:

With the month of January quickly coming to a close, we want to once again reach out to all our families and provide you with our latest situation here at the Long Island State Veterans Home. Today represents day 325 in our ongoing fight against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Our numbers continue to trend in a better direction.

Today we have 22 residents who are currently positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Eight residents are here at the Home, all properly cohorted and quarantined. Thirteen residents are receiving treatment at Stony Brook University Hospital and one is receiving treatment at Stony Brook Southampton Hospital. We have had no COVID-19 expirations since our last correspondence to you.

Our workforce numbers continue to have movement. As you know, we have approximately 675 full-time, part-time and per-diem employees. As of today, we have 257 employees who have tested positive since March 10, 2020. Fifty-three employees are currently quarantining at their homes and 204 staff members have fully recovered and have returned to work. Part of our dilemma with employees is that some members of our team have tested positive for COVID-19 multiple times since the pandemic began last March. Federal and state regulations are very specific for nursing home employees, so that even if a false positive test occurs, we remain obligated to put the employee out on quarantine. This has been frustrating for our employees. However, we always err on the side of caution, while fully meeting all the requirements of the regulatory agencies.

Yesterday, New York State Attorney General Letitia James released a 76-page report that was very critical of the Department of Health, as it relates to underreporting deaths that have occurred in nursing homes throughout this unprecedented public health crisis. There will be a great deal of media attention regarding this report beginning this weekend. As this occurs, please be assured that we have always reported honestly on our situation here at the Home. While we have endured much tragedy over the last 10 months, from day one we have truthfully reported our numbers to you – our family and friends. You deserve nothing less. While we cannot predict how much longer we will endure this pandemic, please know that we will always give you the straight facts about our situation. We value your support of our Home and we recognize our responsibility to accurately report to you – at all times.

We encourage you to continue to seek out the vaccine for yourself and please continue to vigorously practice the 3 W's

***Wear Your Mask***

***Wash Your Hands***

***Watch Your Distance***

Your actions do matter and we want you to be safe. Please feel free to reach out to us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

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