

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

January 7, 2022

Dear LISVH Family Member:

With the first week of the New Year now completed, we want to take this opportunity to update you on our current situation at the Long Island State Veterans Home. Today, we had our first major winter storm of 2022. We want to thank Mike Scioscia and our facilities crew for their rapid response early this morning. Patriots Road, our parking areas, and all our walkways are looking great after this significant weather event.

Here is our latest situation: As of today, we have 23 residents that are currently positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Eighteen of these residents are here at the Home, all properly cohorted and quarantined and five of our residents are being treated at Stony Brook University Hospital. In addition, we currently have 27 employees (all fully vaccinated) who are positive for COVID-19. The majority of these employees have mild to no symptoms and are all quarantining at home. As predicted, the rise in cases was anticipated due to gatherings during the holiday season.

Our region remains very active as it relates to the virus. Yesterday's positivity rate for Suffolk County was 27.3% and the seven-day positivity rate has increased to 27.5%. As of yesterday, there were 910 individuals admitted to various hospitals in Suffolk County for COVID-19, with 118 individuals in the ICUs and 53 on ventilators. The majority of these admissions include those who never had a vaccine or who delayed their booster dose. We remind you that Suffolk County has one of the highest rates in the State. Please continue to take proper precautions, as we anticipate that this third wave of COVID-19 will continue for the next few weeks.

Due to infection prevention protocols, the facility has placed all units on COVID-19 Exposure Precautions until January 19, 2022. Visitation on COVID Exposed Units is allowed but highly discouraged until the end of the quarantine (exposure) period. Visits may still occur in resident rooms on the Exposed Units. Please note that only two visitors may be in the resident's room at any time. As per New York State Department of Health guidance, visitation will remain open, however, we must caution all visitors that you are at increased risk for exposure to COVID-19 when visiting at this time. Visitors will be provided with proper personal protective equipment and infection prevention education. Due to COVID infection control protocols, residents on quarantined units are not permitted to leave the unit.

Earlier today in a press conference, Governor Hochul made two major announcements that will impact all skilled nursing facilities in New York State. The first item will require all health care workers to receive a COVID-19 booster as part of the vaccination mandate. Staff will be required to get a booster shot within two weeks of eligibility. The second item will require all visitors to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test result within 24 hours of visiting a friend or family member in a nursing home. We are awaiting further details from the New York State Department of Health before we implement this testing requirement. When we receive additional guidance, we will be certain to share it with you.

We want to once again thank all our family members for your constant cooperation. While we have been through a lot since March of 2020, we want to reassure you that we remain committed to caring for your loved one. If we can be of any additional service to you, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

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

Jonathan Spier, LNHA
Deputy Executive Director
631-444-8615

Anshu Singh, MD
Medical Director
631-444-8602

Christopher Brancato, RN
Director of Nursing
631-444-8707

Jean Brand, LNHA
Director of ADHC
631-444-8530