Long Island State Veterans Home



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October 1, 2021

Dear LISVH Family Member:

With the month of October now upon us, we want to take this opportunity to update you on our fight against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). At this time, we have **one resident** positive for the virus. This veteran is properly cohorted, quarantined, and resting comfortably. We are also very pleased to report that we have **no employees** positive for the virus at this time.

The COVID-19 numbers continue to trend downward in our region. The COVID-19 positivity rate for Suffolk County was 3.18% yesterday and the 7-day rolling average is 3.88%. While the numbers are waning, we still encourage you to <u>always</u> take proper precautions while in the community.

Earlier this week, we began fully implementing the New York State Department of Health vaccine mandate for healthcare workers. We took proper action for all those staff members who opted not to take the COVID-19 vaccine. We want to acknowledge their service to the Home and wish them continued success going forward. We were also able to grant medical exemptions to five staff members as well. With only nine of our 12 nursing units in operation, we feel that we have the proper amount of staff to provide care to all our current residents. As staffing of vaccinated workers expands, we hope to reopen additional units. Our goal is to be able to once again accept new admissions in mid-October.

We are preparing to distribute the Pfizer booster shot to all eligible residents during the week of October 12, 2021. In preparation, we are requesting that healthcare proxies of all eligible residents complete a DocuSign consent, which we will send to you shortly. Please be on the lookout for this document. Any questions should be referred to Dr. Anshu Singh (631-444-8608) or Elizabeth Murray, RN (631-444-8582).

As for visitation, outdoor visits remain in full swing with the exception of nursing unit 3C (which will reopen on 10/6/2021) and nursing unit 2A (which will reopen on 10/9/2021). We hope that indoor visits for all will begin on October 9, 2021. Please continue to check our website before you visit, as conditions change quickly. Continue to use SignUp Genius as well to schedule all future visits. Please note that with the cooler weather upon us, we will be identifying additional indoor space to accommodate you – our families!!

With great weather forecasted for the coming weekend, please make the most of it. Should you need anything from us, please do not hesitate to call.

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