

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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October 15, 2021

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we complete day 574 in the fight against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), we want to take this opportunity to give you the latest update on our current situation. We are extremely pleased to report that the Home remains COVID-19 free at this time. **We have no residents and no employees with the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).** The COVID-19 numbers for our region are stable with a slight downward trend over the past few weeks. The COVID-19 positivity rate for Suffolk County was 3.3% yesterday. The 7-day rolling average was also 3.2%. As of today, there were 179 COVID-19 admissions at various hospitals around Suffolk County. Of these COVID-19 hospitalized patients, 35 are in ICU's and 18 are on ventilators. These numbers suggest that we should continue to take proper precautions when in the community.

This week, we have administered 122 booster doses of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to eligible residents. Residents who received their second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine at least six months ago, have received education about the booster, and provided consent (or those residents whose healthcare proxies have received education and provided consent) are eligible for a booster. We will continue to provide our residents with booster doses of the COVID-19 vaccine as they become eligible. Yesterday, the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) vaccine advisory panel voted in favor of granting the emergency authorization of a half-dose booster of the Moderna vaccine six months after the second dose. We are waiting for final FDA approval of the Moderna booster and we will notify all eligible residents and families when the FDA decision is rendered. If you have any questions about the booster dose, please call Dr. Anshu Singh, our Medical Director (631-444-8608).

The local health department has reported an increased prevalence of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) in the community. RSV starts as an upper respiratory infection, similar to a common cold, but poses a greater risk of severe illness for young children and older adults. The increase in RSV during the fall/winter season is common to our region. RSV is highly contagious and staying ahead of any future outbreak remains our top priority. With the being said, we ask all families and friends to refrain from visiting the nursing home if you are not feeling well. We strongly encourage all visitors to continue to wear a mask throughout your indoor or outdoor visit regardless of your vaccination status. Scheduled visits are conducted outdoors or at designated indoor locations. Please be reminded, that due to infection prevention measures in place, visitors are not permitted to dine in our café or participate in or attend recreation programs, including religious services, at this time.

Lastly, please do not hesitate to reach out to us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

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