

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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October 30, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we complete another week in our ongoing battle against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), we want to take this opportunity to update you on what is happening at the Home. Providing you timely information is important to us as we remain transparent throughout this global pandemic.

Today was a busy day at the Home. We received an unannounced visit from the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). The purpose of the visit was to conduct another focused Infection Control review. This has been our sixth review since we began the COVID-19 journey back on March 10, 2020. The four member survey team spent today 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 (PPE) 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 each day.

During the week, the virus has remained stable among our resident population. We have three veterans who remain cohorted and under quarantine after previously testing positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). They are resting comfortably at this time and will come out of quarantine on Friday, November 6, 2020. Please know that all residents in our Home are being tested for the virus again, as requested by the New York State Department of Health. Testing allows us to remain ahead of the virus as we try to prevent any type of resurgence.

There has been no change this week with our work force as well. As we indicated last Tuesday, 149 employees had tested positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Two remain on quarantine at home and are asymptomatic. One hundred forty-seven have fully recovered and are back to work. Our employees continue to receive weekly swab tests and we will keep you updated on their status.

Our target date for limited face-to-face visitation remains the same at this time. We remain focused on Monday, November 9, 2020, to accommodate your visit. The same requirements will apply, including the need to have a PCR COVID-19 test result prior to your next scheduled visit. As we get closer to this date, your Social Worker will contact you to schedule the date and time of your visit.

The virus remains active in Suffolk County and with Election Day upon us, please take proper precautions when you go out and vote. The freedom to vote is part of our democracy and we thank our veterans for their role in preserving this important privilege. Needless to say, please practice the 3W's while at your polling place and beyond; ***Wearing a Mask, Washing Your Hands and Watching Your Distance*** will continue to keep the virus in check.

Lastly, we had our Halloween Decorative Pumpkin Competition yesterday. Our residents voted on their favorite entries through our closed circuit television. Kudos to our Dietary Department for their Venus Fly Trap pumpkin. If you would like to see all the entries and the other winners, please check our website or our Facebook page. Please stay safe this weekend and don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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