

# 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

November 30, 2021

Dear LISVH Family Member:

With the end of November upon us, we want to take this opportunity to update you on our current situation at the Long Island State Veterans Home. Currently, we have one resident that is positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). This resident has mild symptoms and is properly cohorted and quarantined. The resident's roommate is also properly quarantined at this time. In addition, we currently have three employees that are positive for COVID-19. All three employees have mild symptoms and are properly quarantined in their own homes. Following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the NYS Department of Health outbreak testing protocols, we are conducting contact tracing and are testing all residents and staff who may have had an exposure.

As predicted, we are seeing a post-Thanksgiving holiday uptick in COVID-19 cases in our region. Yesterday's positivity rate was 6.8% and the seven-day average is currently 5.3%. It should also be noted that the New York statewide positivity rate is approximately 10%. The good news is that this new increase is not bringing additional hospitalizations at this time. Many newly diagnosed individuals are seeking out monoclonal antibody treatment, which is having a positive impact on treating this virus, and are quarantining in their own homes.

By now we have all heard about the Omicron variant that is believed to have originated from South Africa. There are no known cases in the United States as of this writing of this letter. There are two known cases in Canada.

Recent updates to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) guidelines now allow for open visitation inside the facility, which may occur in the resident rooms. In-room visitation will be limited to two people at a time, in order to adhere to core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention. In the event that roommates have visitors arrive at the same time, the Home will attempt to provide an alternate visiting space if available. While we will attempt to accommodate all visitation requests, please understand that must adhere to all social distancing guidelines. Occasionally, situations may occur where the visit must be limited to an in-room visit or moved to an alternative visiting location due to a resident's or roommate's medical condition. If these situations arise, the receptionist at the check in/screening desk will inform all visitors where the appropriate location of the visit will take place.

If you prefer to have a private designated space available for visiting with your loved one, we will have individual rooms available on a first come, first serve basis. You may request one of these private rooms via our [signup genius link on our website](#). Please note, the private designated visitation space can accommodate up to 4 visitors. If you need assistance with booking a private visitation room, please contact our staff at 631-371-8000, Monday through Friday, 9am-2pm.

Please be aware that new LISVH visitation guidelines have been established to reflect current CMS & NYS DOH visitation regulations. [These guidelines can be reviewed here, prior to your visit](#). We wish to thank you in advance for following our visitation guidelines in an effort to keep you and your loved one safe.

Our Thanksgiving holiday was enjoyable for all the residents at the Home. The traditional Thanksgiving meal was outstanding and appreciated by the residents and staff. We want to thank all our families for their full cooperation while visiting the Home during the holiday. While it was a very busy day, all screening processes and infection control measures were followed, allowing friends and family to visit safely. In addition, all residents who scheduled leave on pass for the day with their family did extremely well. The COVID-19 pandemic situation remains fluid, so we appreciate everyone's having the latest information and following our ongoing guidelines. Please know that we will always be in full compliance with any federal, state or local regulations regarding nursing homes.

In closing, please know that we continue to focus on keeping your loved one safe and comfortable. Should you have a question or comment, please never hesitate to reach out to us. Have a great December too!

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