

# Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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LISVH.org

December 1, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

With December upon us, we are into day 266 of our battle against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Nationwide, we have exceeded 13.6 million cases and have seen 269,000 deaths due to the virus. More locally in Suffolk County, we now have exceeded 61,000 cases and have sustained 2,053 deaths from the illness. We are seeing an uptick in cases in our region and continue to actively test our residents and employees as we try to monitor and stay ahead of the virus.

Currently, we have seven residents who are positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). In addition to being asymptomatic, all seven residents are resting comfortably here at the Home. For safety precautions, they have been properly cohorted and quarantined.

In regards to our employees, we have had one additional staff member test positive since last Friday. Currently, 161 of our 675 employees have tested positive for novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) since March 10, 2020. Ten are currently quarantining at their homes, and 151 have fully recovered and returned to work. We continue to test all our employees once a week according to the Governor's Executive Order. Although the Executive Order expires on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, we do believe the deadline will be extended once again.

We have received inquiries regarding holiday decorations. Please know that the Home is actively engaged in promoting the holiday spirit throughout the building while abiding by infection control protocols. As you can imagine, this is not an easy task. We are asking families to limit holiday decorations for their loved ones to a single small item that can fit on the resident's night stand. In addition, the decoration needs to withstand the application of disinfection products multiple times during the holiday season as it will be continuously cleaned on an ongoing basis. Due to the potential damage caused by the cleaning products, we are requesting that these decorations have **no** sentimental or monetary value. Specific questions regarding this matter can be directed to your social worker. As always, we will do our best to accommodate you and your loved one.

We continue to monitor virus activity in the community and remain cautious about the outcome that may occur from this past Thanksgiving weekend. Should you feel that you need a test, the Stony Brook University South P Commuter Parking Lot still has swab testing available at **no charge**, seven days a week. They are open from Monday through Friday, (8am-6pm) and Saturday and Sunday (8am-1pm). For more information, you may call the New York State Department of Health COVID-19 Testing Hotline at 1-888-364-3065 or visit the NYSDOH website at <https://covid19screening.health.ny.gov>. We urge you to maintain safe practices throughout this holiday season. Please know that we remain a phone call away.

Sincerely,

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