

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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December 14, 2021

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we begin our 651st day in the fight against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), we want to update you on the latest situation at the Long Island State Veterans Home. We are pleased to report that there are **no cases** of COVID-19 among our resident population at this time. We have **had no new positive** employees since December 6th. Currently, we have three employees recovering from the COVID-19 virus. All three employees have mild to no symptoms at this time and are quarantining in their homes. We look forward to their return. We continue to actively test residents and staff based upon outbreak testing protocols. We are happy to report that two rounds of outbreak testing have resulted in no positive cases or any transmission of the COVID-19 virus in the facility.

Governor Kathy Hochul recently announced masks will be required to be worn in all indoor public places unless businesses or venues implement a vaccine requirement. This mask mandate was instituted to address the winter surge as COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations have risen statewide. The NYS mask mandate aligns with the current Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) recommendations for communities with substantial and high COVID-19 transmission. As of yesterday, Suffolk County's COVID-19 positivity rate was 7.9% and the seven-day average was 7.2%.

We are extremely concerned over the steady increase in COVID-19 prevalence in our local community. Every effort is being made to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 here at the Home. We continue to screen every person entering the building for signs and symptoms of illness, as well as, temperature monitoring. Our environmental services staff works tirelessly to provide disinfection efforts on high touch areas throughout the facility. Employees, residents and visitors are continuously educated on infection prevention guidelines, best practices, and the benefits of being vaccinated. We are pleased to report that over 85% of our resident population has received a booster (3rd dose) vaccine at this time.

We need your assistance in preventing the spread of COVID-19. We ask all families and friends to review [our Visitation Guidelines](#) before coming to the Home. We would like to remind visitors to refrain from coming the nursing home if you are not feeling well. **We are requiring all visitors to wear a mask throughout your entire visit regardless of your vaccination status.** Due to infection prevention measures in place, guests are restricted to visit in the resident's room or to specifically assigned locations. Visitors are not permitted to travel throughout the building, dine in our café or participate in or attend recreation programs, including religious services, at this time.

With the holiday season upon us, we want to reassure you that our residents have been actively engaged and celebrating with our therapeutic recreation department. We continue to follow all infection prevention protocols to celebrate in a safe and healthy manner. Over the past few weeks there have been many holiday activities occurring throughout the Home, including Menorah Lighting and jelly donuts with the Rabbi, Tree Trimming with Egg Nog Cheer, virtual Christmas Caroling with local school children, and many musical performances to name a few. We encourage you to visit our website to see the latest therapeutic recreation calendar.

Please continue to practice the 3 W's: ***Wear a Mask, Wash Your Hands, Watch Your Distance.*** Lastly, please do not hesitate to reach out to us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

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