

# Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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December 15, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we complete day 280 in our battle against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) we want to take this opportunity to update you on the current situation here at the Long Island State Veterans Home. Giving you timely information on our ongoing status is part of our commitment to families and their loved ones. We appreciate your diligence in reading our Tuesday and Friday letters.

Yesterday, we had our seventh unannounced Infection Control Survey from the New York State Department of Health. A team of four surveyors spent the day with us reviewing medical records, touring all our nursing units, interviewing residents and staff, and checking our current Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) stockpile. We are pleased to report that we had a good review and sustained one minor deficiency in our laundry area, which was corrected immediately. We do appreciate these unannounced reviews because they help to validate the care we are providing to our residents.

As of today, we have 30 residents who are currently positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). This number reflects our post-Thanksgiving uptick, which is similar to what has been experienced throughout Suffolk County. Twenty-five of the residents are here at the Home (properly cohorted and quarantined) and five of the residents are receiving treatment at the Stony Brook University Hospital. We continue to test our residents on an ongoing basis in order to stay ahead of the virus.

We have had additional employees test positive for the virus since our last correspondence to you. Of our 675 employees, 175 have now tested positive for the virus. Eighteen employees are currently at home on quarantine and 157 have fully recovered and have returned to work. We remain vigilant with employee testing and are in full compliance with the Governor's Executive Order for COVID-19 testing. We remain very cautious with our staff, and ask those employees showing any signs of illness to stay home until we receive their formal test results.

As mentioned in last week's correspondence, we are scheduled to work with CVS Pharmacy, as they will come here to directly administer the vaccine to all our residents, as well as up to one third of our staff. CVS Pharmacy has revised our "V-day" to Monday, December 28, 2020. The vaccine consent form comes from CVS and we will share more information with you about the process when we

receive instructions from CVS. As discussed, CVS has been contracted by the Federal Government to provide COVID-19 vaccines to long-term care facilities in the Long Island Region.

Lastly, we are paying close attention to the weather forecast, as we anticipate our first winter storm beginning Wednesday afternoon and lasting into most of the day on Thursday. Whatever Mother Nature brings to us, we will be ready to handle it. Our facility's crew will work around the clock to be sure that our roadways and walkways are safe for all our employees. Please stay safe as we all prepare for some real winter weather. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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