

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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Dear LISVH Family Member:

With another week completed in our 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 had one employee test positive since our last letter. Currently, we have four employees recovering from the COVID-19 virus. All four vaccinated employees have mild to no symptoms and are quarantining in their homes. Three of these employees will be returning to work early next week. We continue to actively test residents and staff based upon outbreak testing protocols. So far, all additional outbreak testing has resulted in no positive cases or any transmission of the COVID-19 virus in the facility.

Due to a recent positive COVID-19 employee on Unit 3D, only in-room visitation will be permitted for this unit at this time. Visits on 3D are allowed, but highly discouraged through December 29th. All visitors will be provided with proper personal protective equipment and infection prevention education. Due to COVID infection control protocols, residents of 3D are not permitted to leave the unit. All visits that were scheduled for 3D residents to take place in the private visitation area (Unit 1B rooms) will be converted to in-room visits. Please note that only two visitors may be in the resident's room at any time. Alternative accommodations can be provided on the unit if necessary. We remind all families to check our website for the latest information related to your visit. All families who have signed up for the AMG Alert System will receive a notification of any new COVID-19 positive employees or residents. In addition, information will continue to be provided daily on our website.

Today, Governor Kathy Hochul announced that New York State had 21,027 new positive cases, breaking the record for most reported cases in a single day. Suffolk County's COVID-19 positivity rate continues to rise. Yesterday's COVID-19 positivity rate was 8.8% and the seven-day average was 8.0%. The Delta variant remains the dominant strain and is believed to be fueling the spike in more severe cases. However, the Omicron variant is thought to be behind the surge of new infections and experts expect Omicron to overtake as the dominant U.S. strain in a matter of weeks. New York is reporting the detection of Omicron at four times the rate of the rest of the country. 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 continues to work around-the-clock 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 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 families and friends to NOT VISIT 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.

Holiday celebrations continue to be in full swing at the Home. The therapeutic recreation department has been very busy keeping our residents actively engaged in wonderful holiday themed activities such as the Ugly Sweater Party, Holiday Cookie Decorating, Holiday Dinner and Holiday Movie Night, virtual Christmas Caroling by many community groups and Advent Mass celebration. We continue to follow all infection prevention protocols to celebrate in a safe and healthy manner. We encourage you to visit the therapeutic recreation calendar on our website to see the latest activities and programs taking place.

Please continue to practice the 3 W's: ***Wear a Mask, Wash Your Hands, Watch Your Distance.*** We remain committed to providing you timely and accurate information as the pandemic continues to endure. If you need us, please call us. We remain here for you.

Sincerely,

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