

# Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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December 22, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we complete day 287 in our fight against the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), we want to provide you with the latest information regarding our status here at the Home. Since early March of this year, we have remained completely committed to providing you with all of the details of how the virus has affected our Home. With the vaccine upon us, we will continue to share updates with you, our family members.

Today, we have 26 residents who are positive for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Nineteen residents are here at the Home, all properly cohorted and quarantined. Six residents are currently receiving treatment at Stony Brook University Hospital, and one resident is at a local hospice facility.

The recent uptick in COVID-19 activity in Suffolk County continues to impact the Home. Sadly, we must report that we lost four of our veterans over the weekend. All four had the virus, in addition to other multiple co-morbidities. Our losses include: a 91-year-old Air Force veteran who served for twenty years including the Vietnam War; an 88-year-old Marine Corps veteran who served in the Korean War; and two Army veterans, 86 years old and 83 years old, who both served post Korean War. All four veterans remind us of the debt of gratitude we owe to those who have worn a military uniform to protect the freedoms we cherish as Americans. All of us at the Long Island State Veterans Home grieve with their family members and want them to know how honored we were to care for them. May they all rest in peace.

In regards to our workforce, as you may know, we have 675 full-time, part-time, and per-diem employees. Since March 10, 2020, 183 employees have tested positive for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Twenty-three are currently quarantining at their homes and 160 have fully recovered and returned to work. Weekly swab testing for all

employees continues as we remain in full compliance with the Governor’s Executive Order for nursing home employees. We are grateful to our staff for their diligence in being tested on a regular basis.

We are now six days away from “V-Day.” On Monday, December 28, 2020, a team from CVS Pharmacy will be here to vaccinate all of our residents and one-third of our workforce. We strongly encourage all family members to have their loved ones receive the vaccine. We have heard from other local nursing homes that their “V-Day” has gone extremely well. It is not too late to get the vaccine for your loved one. Please reach out to your social worker with any questions regarding this matter. Again, we all are looking forward to next Monday.

With the Christmas holiday upon us, we will be writing our biweekly letter this Thursday, instead of Friday. Please look out for our next letter as we will continue to update you on our situation. As always, we are happy to answer all of your questions.

Sincerely,

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