

# Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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Dear LISVH Family Member:

With the end of 2021 upon us, we want to take this opportunity to update you on our latest situation at the Long Island State Veterans Home. As we complete Day 665 in the fight against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), we want to alert you that we have one resident who is positive for the virus at this time. The resident and roommate are properly quarantined and cohorted at this time. On the employee front, we currently have 18 employees (all fully vaccinated) who are COVID-19 positive and are quarantining in their own homes.

COVID-19 is once again on the rise in our region. Yesterday's positivity rate in Suffolk County was 17.5% and the seven-day average is 15.6%. Experts are telling us that the latest version of this virus is less fatal; however, it is much more contagious. While we expect to see more cases arise in the next few weeks, we are pleased that the majority of our residents are both fully vaccinated, as well as boosted (85% boosted). We continue to test both residents and staff regularly in accordance with the federal, state and local requirements.

Due to infection prevention protocols, the facility has placed all units on COVID-19 Exposure Precautions until 1/11/2022. Visitation on COVID Exposed Units is allowed but highly discouraged until the end of the quarantine (exposure) period. Visits may still occur in resident rooms on the exposed units. As per New York State Department of Health guidance, visitation will remain open, however we must caution all visitors that we are in an outbreak investigation due to positive test results among staff and residents, and you are at increased risk for exposure to COVID-19 when visiting at this time. Visitors will be provided with proper personal protective equipment and infection prevention education. Due to COVID infection control protocols, residents on quarantined units are not permitted to leave the unit. Please note that only two visitors may be in the resident's room at any time.

When visiting, please adhere to the following guidance:

- If you do not feel well, do not visit.
- Visitors must wear masks at all times.
- All visitors are encouraged to be tested for COVID-19, within 2-3 days before their visit.
- All visitors are encouraged to be vaccinated for COVID-19.
- All visitors under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
- No more than two individuals are permitted in an elevator at any given time.
- All visitors will be screened upon entrance. Visitors who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 will not be granted entrance.
- After screening, all visitors should report directly to the resident room / designated visiting location, and remain in that location for the duration of the visit.

- No more than two visitors per resident are allowed for an in-room visit, due to social distancing requirements.
- If a resident or a visitor requests additional individuals to be present, facility staff will offer alternative visiting space, if available, to accommodate their request.
- All visitors should physically distance from other residents and staff of the facility.
- Hand hygiene is required prior to and after each visit.
- Consumption of food items should not occur during any in-room visit.
- The Garden Grill Café is closed to visitors at this time.
- No pets are allowed at this time.
- Visitors may use the restroom in the lobby only.

Visitation is contingent on compliance with these guidelines. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Again, we are doing everything possible to stay ahead of the situation. We encourage you to continue to practice the 3W's –*Wear a Mask, Wash Your Hands and Watch Your Distance*, and please refrain from visiting if you do not feel well.

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