

# Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

100 Patriots Road  
Stony Brook, NY 11790-3300  
P 631.444.8500  
F 631.444.8575  
LISVH.org

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Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we complete day 350 in our fight against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the nation has reached an unfortunate milestone of over 500,000 deaths due to this wicked and elusive illness. Here are the current numbers for your review:

USA	28,259,000 cases	501,500 deaths
NY State	1,606,300 cases	46,562 deaths
Suffolk County	159,600 cases	2,883 deaths

Our numbers at the LISVH continue to slowly trend in the right (downward) direction. Today, we have five residents who are positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Four are here at the Home. They are all asymptomatic and are properly quarantined and cohorted. One resident remains at Stony Brook University Hospital. This resident is in stable condition, awaiting a negative swab test for the virus. We look forward to his return.

In terms of our workforce, there have been 284 employees that have tested positive for COVID-19 since March 10, 2020. Twenty of our employees are quarantining at home at this time, while 264 have fully recovered and have returned to work. There has been no change in our swab testing protocol. All full-time employees continue to be swabbed twice a week.

We would like to update you on reopening for visitation. We look forward to the day when families return to our Home. There have been many inquiries based on the Governor's recent press conference on this important topic. Yesterday, we received a New York State Department of Health advisory regarding skilled nursing home visiting. We want you to have this information. Here is the link: [NYSDOH SNF Visitation Advisory 2-22-2021](#)

A key component to reopening is that the facility must have no new onset of COVID-19 cases among residents or staff. While we remain stable with our resident population, we have had six new employees test positive for the virus since this past Sunday. Although all have mild or no symptoms, we need to add an additional 14 days to when we could possibly reopen. We would ask every family member to please read the advisory (just click on the link above) to better familiarize yourself with the criteria.

On a positive note, we are pleased to report that the New York State Legislature has taken up the concept of “Essential Caregiver” for every nursing home resident. NYS Senate Bill 614B and NYS Assembly Bill 1052B will allow every family to designate one member to have visitation rights, as long as he/she is routinely swab tested for the virus and agree to wear proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during the visit. You may want to check with your Assemblyperson or State Senator to check the status of this important piece of legislation. Having “Essential Caregivers” would certainly benefit our residents and their families.

We will continue to provide you all the latest information, as we know it. Please reach out if we can be of further assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Fred S. Sganga, FACHE  
Executive Director  
631-444-8606

Jonathan Spier, MHA, LNHA  
Deputy Executive Director  
631-444-8615

Frank Cervo, MD  
Medical Director  
631-444-8602

Rona Schlau, RN  
Director of Nursing  
631-444-8707

Jean Brand, MSW  
Director of ADHC  
631-444-8530