

Long Island State Veterans Home



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March 19, 2021

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we complete another week in the fight against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), we would like to inform you of our current situation at the Home. Once again, we have **no new cases** of the COVID-19 virus among our resident population. Swab testing of residents is still occurring, as we monitor the COVID-19 status of all those under our care. We did have a new case of COVID-19 within our workforce today. Since March 10, 2020, 308 of our 675 employees have tested positive for the virus. Twenty staff members are currently quarantining at home and 288 workers have fully recovered and have returned to work. Please note that employees who are currently quarantining at home have either no symptoms or mild symptoms.

We continue to vigorously pursue vaccinating new admissions and employees who are ready to take the vaccine. Earlier today, we secured 30 doses of Moderna vaccine from the Suffolk County Department of Health. Twelve new residents received their first dose today, as well as eight staff members. Ten additional staff members will receive their first dose early next week. Going forward, we have made arrangements to secure and administer the vaccine every Friday. The vaccine remains a vital tool in the fight against the virus.

Yesterday, we received word from VA Secretary Denis McDonough, that LISVH will be receiving \$17 million in VA COVID-19 construction grant funding. This funding is part of the recent stimulus bill approved by Congress. In order to be better able to handle any future pandemics, we will utilize this grant on five separate projects to renovate the Home. We were able to secure this significant funding even though we were up against the other 157 State Veterans Homes nationwide. We would like to thank Pat Rocco (CFO), Michael Scioscia (Director of Facilities), and Ana Topolovec (in-house architect) for their hard work in obtaining this critical funding.

Lastly, we are planning to have a Zoom Family Council meeting on Friday, March 26, 2021 at 11:00 AM. We will send you the link next week. Families may participate by computer or telephone, and we look forward to giving you an update as well as answering any questions you may have. It is our strong desire to reconnect with all of you as we continue to endure this unprecedented public health event. Please continue to stay safe and know that we are a telephone call away.

Sincerely,

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