

Long Island State Veterans Home



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Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we complete day 392 in the fight against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), we want to alert you to our situation at the Long Island State Veterans Home. We continue to have only one resident who is positive for the virus. This resident remains at our Home, properly cohorted and quarantined. Swab testing continues to occur among our resident population, and thankfully, we have not had any new cases. Please note that the seven-day positivity rate for New York State is 4.38% and Suffolk County comes in slightly above at 4.5%. We continue to monitor the positivity rates as part of our internal surveillance.

As an update to our workforce situation, 331 of our 675 employees have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus since March 10, 2020. Twenty-two employees are currently quarantining in their homes, while 309 have fully recovered and have returned to work. Since we last wrote to you, two additional employees have tested positive for the virus. Both employees were fully vaccinated prior to testing positive. While their symptoms are mild, they still potentially transmit the virus. Please know that if you are vaccinated, you should still utilize safe practices (the 3W's) wherever you go.

Vaccine administration remains a top priority. Earlier today, we vaccinated an additional 10 employees. On Thursday, we will be securing 70 additional second doses of vaccine from the Suffolk County Department of Health. These doses will be administered over the next two weeks to both residents and employees. Thankfully, vaccine access has not been a problem; we will continue to offer vaccines in the weeks and months ahead.

We are pleased to notify you that Governor Cuomo signed the Essential Caregiver legislation (S.614B and A.1052B) late last month. While the legislation has been signed into law, we are still awaiting guidelines from the New York Department of Health about the specifics. With one positive resident and 22 employees quarantining in their homes, we are still considered to be in "outbreak mode" by the New York State Department of Health. We continue to accommodate residents and families with compassionate visits and ask you to reach out directly to your social worker for a scheduled visit. We appreciate all our families, as we begin navigating the future requirements of the NYSDOH as it relates to the Essential Caregiver legislation. We will certainly share updated information with you as we learn it. Again, please feel free to reach out to us with your questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

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