

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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Dear LISVH Family Member:

With another week coming to a close here at the Long Island State Veterans Home, we want to update you on our latest situation. We continue to be pleased to report that we have no cases of COVID-19 among our resident population. In addition, we continue to have only one staff member quarantining at home for the virus. This employee remains asymptomatic, but must quarantine until June 17, 2021. All nursing units remain open for scheduled visiting except units 1B and 3C. We anticipate returning to scheduled visitation for these two units on Thursday, June 17, 2021. If a compassionate visit is required, please don't hesitate to contact your social worker.

Late yesterday afternoon, the New York State Department of Health modified the [nursing home staff testing requirements](#) that were part of the original New York State Executive Order 202.88. [Click the link to view the new guidance](#). Effective immediately, fully vaccinated personnel will no longer require routine twice-weekly testing. Any personnel who have not been fully vaccinated, as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will continue to be COVID-19 tested (twice a week for full-time employees and once a week for part-time employees). Hopefully, this new guidance will encourage more nursing home employees to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Vaccine education and advocacy remains strong among our residents and staff. Vaccine supply is strong and steady, anyone who wants a vaccine may obtain it. We continue to provide vaccine administration on a weekly basis for all residents and employees. As you all know, we cannot mandate the vaccine, however, we are constantly educating both residents and staff to the importance of getting vaccinated. We continue to see a slow but steady rise among employees taking the vaccine. We also encourage you – our family and friends – to consider taking the vaccine if you have not done so already.

Earlier this week, we received information about the [Personal Caregiving and Compassionate Caregiving Visitor legislation](#) that was signed into law by Governor Cuomo. This new legislation allows residents of nursing homes to identify “personal caregiving visitors” to assist with personal caregiving or compassionate caregiving for the resident during a public health emergency. Our social work department has been in contact with residents, families and designated representatives in order to gather the necessary information required for this new type of visitation. The frequency and duration of the personal caregiving visitation will be predetermined by the resident and/or designated representative. Visitation will be based on a variety of factors such as clinical or personal needs, resident privacy concerns, and infection prevention / control measures. Personal Caregiving Visitors will be required to follow New York State Department of Health testing guidelines, follow facility protocol regarding personal protective equipment (PPE) use, COVID-

19 screening procedures, temperature checks, and social distancing guidelines. Residents will be able to receive one Personal Caregiving Visitor at any given time. Personal caregiving visitation may be temporarily suspended based upon multiple factors defined by the Public Health Law. If you have any questions related to this new Personal Caregiving and Compassionate Caregiving Visitor guidance, please contact your social worker for assistance.

We want to again thank all our families for your tremendous cooperation, especially when you come to visit. We remain extremely honored to care for your loved one. We remain committed to our families as well. Never hesitate to reach out to us if we can provide assistance.

Sincerely,

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