

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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July 30, 2021

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we start the month of August, we would like to take this opportunity to provide you with an update on our situation at the Long Island State Veterans Home. We remain in a good place with no cases of the virus at this time. This includes all residents and all staff members. The Home has been COVID-19 free since April 22, 2021 and we would like to stay that way!

At his press conference earlier this week, Governor Cuomo indicated that all “patient-facing” employees of New York State would be mandated to get the COVID-19 vaccine before Labor Day (September 6, 2021). This would include employees of the Long Island State Veterans Home. It is our understanding that this new prospective mandate must be negotiated with the three unions (CSEA, PEF and UUP) that represent employees at Stony Brook University Hospital and the Long Island State Veterans Home. The final details of this announcement have not been finalized as of yet. When we have more information, we will certainly share it with you. Currently, 75% of our employees are fully vaccinated and the vaccine supply remains strong. We continue to offer weekly opportunities to receive the vaccine as well.

With regard to wearing masks on our campus, as indicated earlier, we are COVID-19 free and want to remain that way. While the mask wearing controversy is going strong, we will now adopt the CDC recommendation, which requires everyone wearing a mask while visiting your loved one. This includes all vaccinated visitors. Our reason is simple – we do not want to be forced to restrict visiting again. Lack of visitation creates issues for our residents and you – our families. We are fiercely trying to keep the Delta variant (and all future variants) away from our Home. It is our firm belief that wearing a mask during your visit is just plain smart. It further prevents the spread of any variant. We want to once again thank our families for your full cooperation. We can always count on you to comply.

Lastly, please know that we are here for you and just a phone call away. Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

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