



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Washington Veterans Home • 1141 Beach Drive E • Port Orchard, Washington 98366 • (360) 895-4700

January 15, 2021

Dear Washington Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

Last night, an additional test result was received indicating that one additional staff member has been diagnosed with COVID-19. The staff member is self-isolating.

We are working closely with the Kitsap Public Health District and following guidance from the CDC, CMS and our State Department of Health to ensure we are taking every possible precaution.

We continue to ask our staff to pay close attention to whether they have any symptoms, including the presence of a fever. As part of our ongoing screening process, all staff are screened upon arrival at work each day. This process includes a series of questions around whether symptoms are present and a temperature check. In addition, staff are asked to report any symptoms that occur after coming to work.

The Veterans Home, is following guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which requires regular testing of all long-term care facility staff. Currently the rate of positivity in Kitsap County requires staff to be tested once each week. This may result in the identification of asymptomatic carriers, but is an important tool in defending against COVID-19.

In an effort to provide information as quickly and accurately as possible, we have developed a website to provide information to families and resident representatives, <https://www.dva.wa.gov/covid>.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William McElya".

William McElya, BSNS MBA LNHA

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