



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

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

November 17, 2021

Dear Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

We are sending this letter to be sure you have the latest information regarding the finding of a COVID-19 positive staff member.

We have confirmed two additional staff members have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Each Resident on the affected unit will be tested. We are working closely with the Kitsap Public Health District and following guidance from them, the Centers for Disease Control, Centers for Medicare, and Medicaid Services (CMS), and our State Department of Health to ensure we are safeguarding our residents and staff.

Residents and Staff members in the affected area will have repeat testing performed and will be screened and monitored for symptoms regularly. Staff are tested twice each week and are also paying 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.

Other Updates:

Activities and Visitors

We will continue with scheduled visitations at this time, please continue to reach out to our Social Work team at 360-895-4369. If you would like more information on scheduling a time to virtually visit with your loved one, please feel free to contact Tami Reuter at 360-895-4376.

Facility Maintenance

Our Housekeeping, Maintenance and Laundry departments are also working hard throughout our facility, ensuring equipment and linen are kept clean and sanitized. Our housekeeping team provides continuous disinfections of all of the most commonly touched surfaces within the building along with the daily cleaning, sanitation, and repair routines that they provide. For family members who assist their loved ones with their laundry, pickup days will be Wednesdays.

Vaccine Information

As a part of our continued efforts to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus, our home is holding vaccination clinics for all unvaccinated staff, residents, visitors, volunteers, and family members who wish to receive the vaccine. We encourage all residents, staff, and community members who are able and eligible to be vaccinated to consider getting vaccinated for COVID-19. If you



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are interested in receiving a vaccine and would like more information about our upcoming Vaccine Clinics, please email Shelley Neeleman at Shelley.Neeleman@dva.wa.gov

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>.

Thank you trusting us with providing care to your loved one. Please feel free to contact us at 360-895-4700 with any questions or concerns.

Signed,

William McElya, BSNS, MBA, LNHA
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