



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Walla Walla Veterans Home

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November 17, 2021

Dear Walla Walla Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

I am writing today to provide you an update regarding COVID-19 testing and results at WWVH.

Earlier this week another one of our WWVH staff members tested positive on a rapid COVID-19 test. We are working closely with the Walla Walla County Department of Community Health and following guidance from them, 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. The staff member has been quarantined at home and has no contact with staff or residents during this time.

All residents were immediately tested and all were negative. Staff are tested twice each week. 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, any potential exposures, and a temperature check. In addition, staff are asked to report any symptoms that occur after coming to work. All staff continue to wear PPE that is in accordance with the strictest guidance for nursing home employees.

Activities and Visitors: No change to current protocol due to all residents testing negative.

Housekeeping and Maintenance: Our Housekeeping and Maintenance departments are actively striving 7 days a week to assure that the facility, equipment and linens 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.

Vaccine Information: All WWVH staff have been fully vaccinated. We've held one booster shot clinic for residents and staff with more to be scheduled in the near future.

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

Sincerely,

Lonna Leno, Administrator
Walla Walla Veterans Home

Serving Those Who Served