



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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

December 8, 2020

Dear Washington Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

Today we learned that one of our on-call Veterans Home Team Members has been diagnosed with COVID-19. The employee is self-isolating and recovering at home. Additional environmental cleaning took place in areas that the staff member worked.

As a precaution, residents in the affected area will be proactively tested, and we will continue to monitor all residents for symptoms on each shift.

We are asking 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 will take their temperature at least twice a day and are also asked to report any symptoms that occur after coming to work.

The Washington Veterans Home, is working closely with the Kitsap Public Health District and following guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service, which requires regular testing of all long-term care facility staff. 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,

William McElya, BSNS MBA LNHA

Administrator U.S. Army  
Washington Veterans Home  
Department of Veterans Affairs



*"Serving Those Who Served"*