



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Washington Soldiers Home, 1301 Orting Kapowsin Hwy E • Orting, Washington 98360
Serving Those Who Served

August 4, 2021

Dear Soldiers Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

We are writing to provide an update on our COVID-19 testing and results. Today we received confirmation of a COVID-19 positive test result for 1 staff member. This person did not have direct contact with any residents and minimal contact with other employees while wearing appropriate protective equipment. We are working closely with the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department 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.

Staff who had contact were immediately rapid tested with negative results. All staff continue to be tested 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.

VACCINE INFORMATION

As a part of our continued efforts to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus, our home is hosting a vaccination clinic on 8/05/21 for all unvaccinated staff and residents 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.

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>.

Sincerely,

Robert Pence, Administrator