



## STATE OF WASHINGTON

### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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

August 5, 2021

I am writing with new information on COVID-19 and its impact on our Home. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we battle COVID-19 in our building.

**New information:**

Today, as we were doing proactive testing on residents in the affected area of the Washington Veterans Home, we received confirmation of two additional COVID-19 positive test results for residents. This brings the total to 4 positive residents and 2 positive staff since July 30, 2021.

**Previously reported information:** 0 days until 14 days have passed without a new positive.

Additional environmental cleaning continues to take place and we will conduct enhanced surveillance, including 4-hour symptom and temperature checks, for residents for the next 14 days.

We continue working with the Kitsap Public Health District to determine next steps or additional measures. We also are following guidance from CDC, CMS and our State Department of Health to ensure we are safeguarding our residents and staff.

Staff will continue to monitor 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 monthly.

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>.

Yours in Service,

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