



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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

August 16, 2021

Dear Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

Last week, the CDC officially recommended additional vaccines for people with weakened immune systems. Our Veterans Home medical team is reviewing CDC guidance and resident records to determine who might be eligible at this time. Because the State Veterans Homes are vaccine administrators, we will be able to provide the additional vaccine to eligible residents, who choose to receive it, at our facilities.

Over the weekend, we received confirmation of five additional residents diagnosed with COVID-19. Since July 30, thirty-six residents and eight staff have been diagnosed with COVID-19. 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.

All residents will continue to be tested every 3-7 days, and will be screened and monitored for symptoms regularly. Staff are 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.

Other Updates:

Activities and Visitors

For the next two weeks, we will be suspending in-person visits, except for compassionate care visits. Our Activity Department will be providing many 1:1 activities and individual opportunities. 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.

Dietary

Our meal service has been restructured with our residents receiving and eating meals in their rooms. Ancillary staff have been tasked to help assure that the meal trays are delivered timely.

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.

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 are interested in receiving a vaccine and would like more information about our upcoming Vaccine Clinics, please email

SadieF@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,



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