



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

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

December 29th, 2021

Dear Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

We have confirmed seven additional staff members have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and one Resident has tested positive after returning to the Facility from Home. Each Resident on the affected units will be tested. 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.

Residents in the affected area will have repeat testing performed and will be screened and monitored for symptoms regularly. Staff are tested twice 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

We are following guidance from the Kitsap Public Health District and are suspending indoor visits currently with the exception of Compassionate Care and Essential Support Personnel. Our Social Work team will be contacting all family members to reschedule currently scheduled visitations. 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.

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. For family members who assist their loved ones with their laundry, pickup days will be Wednesdays.

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,

William McElya, BSNS, MBA, LNHA
Administrator U.S. Army
Washington State Department of Veteran Affairs (WDVA)
Washington Veterans Home Port Orchard, WA
(O) 360-895-4705
(Fx) 360-895-4453

