



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Spokane Veterans Home • 222 E 5th • Spokane WA 99202-0538

January 21, 2022

Dear Spokane Veterans Homes Residents, Representatives and Family,

We have received confirmation through our regular staff testing that 2 additional staff members have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Since December 29, 8 staff have been diagnosed with COVID-19. We are continuing to test all residents every 5-7 days as a precaution. Yesterday during the proactive resident testing, a resident test returned with a very faint positive indicator. We performed a second test which was negative, and then sent a PCR test to the lab which also returned negative. During the time we were awaiting the test results, the resident was placed on isolation and all necessary PPE was used when providing care.

We are working closely with the Spokane Regional Health District, 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.

Due to the rates in Spokane County, staff are tested twice a 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.

Following the guidance from The Department of Health the following interventions will remain in place for at least two weeks:

Activities and Visitors

We will continue with scheduled visits; however, if additional positives are identified visits may be rescheduled to a later time. We suggest scheduling window visits and encouraging families who are eligible for compassionate care visits, to schedule virtual visits. Please contact Jeanette or Eric in Recreation Therapy at (509) 688-9209 or (509) 221-0799 to make these arrangements.

Dietary

Residents will resume dining in limited capacity in the dining room or continue eating in their room. Ancillary staff have been tasked to help assure that the meal trays are delivered timely.

Facility Maintenance

Our Housekeeping, Maintenance and Laundry departments continue to ensure that our facility, 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, we continue to offer vaccinations and boosters for staff and residents. We encourage all residents and community members who are able and eligible to be vaccinated to consider getting vaccinated and receiving a booster for COVID-19. If you are interested in receiving a vaccine or booster and would like more information, please call (509) 344-5079 or (509) 319-5083.

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 and staff, <https://www.dva.wa.gov/covid>.

Sincerely,



Patrick McNabb
Administrator