



**STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

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

January 10, 2022

Dear Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

We are sending this letter to be sure you have the latest information regarding the finding of COVID-19 in our facility. We have been able to identify positive cases much sooner with increased vigilance and twice a week testing per CDC guidance. This has allowed us to keep our residents safe but does show a significant uptick in the number of cases.

We have confirmed 22 staff members have been diagnosed with COVID-19 since December 22<sup>nd</sup>, eleven of those have fully recovered and have returned to work. Additionally, our one positive resident case has also fully recovered. There are no longer any positive resident cases within the facility. However, because of our current positive staff members, residents on the affected units continue to be tested and monitored for symptoms regularly. Thus far, all resident tests have returned negative.

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. 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 except for Compassionate Care and Essential Support Personnel. Due to the rising number of cases, we would highly discourage any visitations other than end of life at this time. 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 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,

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