



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Walla Walla Veterans Home

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January 1, 2022

Dear Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives, and Staff:

Happy New Year! I hope that you and yours are safe, healthy, and have a 2022 that surpasses last year in ways that are most meaningful to you.

This letter is to notify you that we've received confirmation that two staff members have tested positive for COVID-19.

All residents have been tested and received negative results over the past 24 hours. This brings our current total to **5** positive staff members, and **0** positive residents. Residents will be tested again in 5 days. All residents are regularly screened and monitored for symptoms. We are following guidance from the Walla Walla Health Jurisdiction, Center for Disease Control, CMS (Medicare and Medicaid Services), and our State Department of Health to ensure we are safeguarding our residents and staff.

Employee Screening and Vaccinations: All WWVH staff have been fully vaccinated, are tested twice weekly, and are screened upon arrival to work each day. The screening process includes a series of questions around whether symptoms are present, whether they've been exposed to a positive case, and a temperature check. Staff are asked to report any symptoms that may present after they arrived at work.

Activities and Visitors: No change to current protocol due to all residents testing negative. Happy to give you this news on the first day of 2022! If additional positives are identified, you will receive updated guidance regarding visitation.

Facility, PPE, Housekeeping: Our Housekeeping, Procurement, and Maintenance departments continue to work 7 days a week to assure that the facility is clean, well-stocked with PPE, and sanitized. Our wonderful custodians provide ongoing thorough disinfection of the most touched surfaces along with their daily cleaning and sanitation routines.

To access current WDVA Covid-19 data and updates, please visit the following website that was developed for families and resident representatives: <https://www.dva.wa.gov/covid>.

Respectfully,

Lonna Leno
Administrator

Serving Those Who Served