



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Washington Soldiers Home and Colony

March 20, 2023

Dear Residents, Families, and Resident Representatives,

These letters are sent to provide you with up-to-date information on the COVID-19 status in our Home, and meet the notification requirements of CMS and L&I.

We are working closely with the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department, Centers for Disease Control, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and our State Department of Health and following their guidance and recommendations to ensure we are safeguarding our residents and staff.

Resident COVID-19 Cases

Date of 1st Resident Case in Current Outbreak	New Resident Cases Since Last Report	Total Cases in Current Outbreak	Wings with Positive Residents
12/06/2022	0	1	0

Staff COVID-19 Cases

Date of 1st Staff Case in current Outbreak	New Staff Cases	Total Cases in Current Outbreak
N/A	3	26

Modifications/Guidelines to Visitation, Group Activities, and Dining Rooms:

- In-person visits are allowed but we do ask that you wear a mask in common areas, only visit with the person you are here to visit and stay in the resident room or outside of the nursing building while visiting to limit any possible exposure.
- Group activities are not currently affected.
- We will continue to monitor and test residents according to the guidance from our local health jurisdiction.
- For the safety of the visitor, in general, residents/patients are encouraged to limit in-person visitation while they are infectious. There is a risk that you contract COVID-19. While visiting only visit the resident/patient room. Minimize time spent in other locations in the facility.

- Visitors should not visit the facility until 10 days from COVID-19 illness. Visitors not up to date with COVID-19 vaccines should not visit the facility until 10 days from COVID-19 exposure, or 7 days with a negative test.

VACCINE INFORMATION

As a part of our continued efforts to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we continue to offer vaccination boosters to staff and residents who wish to receive the vaccine booster. We encourage all residents, staff, and community members who are able and eligible to be vaccinated to consider getting vaccinated for COVID-19 and if vaccinated consider getting the booster.

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>.

DOH Covid outbreak definition:

Healthcare Setting COVID-19 Outbreak Definition:

1 or more COVID-19 case(s) which originated in the veterans home in a resident OR 3 or more suspected, probable, or confirmed COVID-19 cases in Healthcare Personnel linked to facility exposure AND no other more likely sources of exposure for at least 1 of the cases.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DPS' followed by a flourish and the initials 'NHA'.

Daniel Smith, Administrator