



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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

November 19, 2020

Dear Washington Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

I'm writing with news about how we're going to safely bring visiting opportunities back to our Washington Veterans Home residents and families. As you know, the change in weather meant that we needed to rethink our strategy on how to safely and comfortably allow families to visit with their loved ones, but I'm happy to announce that beginning on December 1, we will offer window visits! Two visiting areas will be set up in the lower activity room where residents can visit with their loved ones through the window. Family and friends will be located outside the lower activity room window, and the microphone system from the visiting cubes will be used to provide quality audio. Two people will be allowed to visit with a resident at a time, and they must keep face masks on throughout the visit. Visitors will park in the driveway that leads to the chapel, and go into the chapel to be screened prior to coming to the visiting area. Visitors may not enter the skilled nursing facility. If you are interested in scheduling a window visit, please call Barbara Holbrook at 360-895-4736.

With the holidays almost upon us, I want to ask everyone to please be safe this holiday season. This has been and will continue to be a year like no other, but if we take precautions in our personal lives, we can help our community get through this pandemic. Following guidelines like:

- wearing face coverings;
- practicing social distancing;
- avoiding close contact and gatherings with people outside your household (even with family and friends!);
- holding gatherings outdoors with no more than 5 people outside your household or ensuring everyone coming to an indoor gathering has quarantined or tested prior to attending;
- and washing hands frequently; will reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community!

We are asking our staff to follow the same precautions. With the current rate of positivity in Kitsap County, our staff members are undergoing monthly COVID-19

testing. We hope that these precautionary measures will keep COVID-19 from entering our building and impacting our residents and staff.

Thank you for putting your trust in us as we do everything we can to care for your loved one. I wish you all a very safe and healthy Thanksgiving Day!

Signed,



William McElya, BSNS MBA LNHA
Administrator U.S. Army
Washington Veterans Home
Department of Veterans Affairs

