



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

*Washington Soldiers Home, 1301 Orting Kapowsin Hwy E • Orting, Washington 98360*  
*Serving Those Who Served*

September 23, 2021

Dear Soldiers Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

We are writing to provide an update on our COVID-19 testing and results. Today we received confirmation of a COVID-19 positive test result for a staff member. This staff member does not work in the nursing building and had no contact with our residents. We are working closely with the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department and following guidance from them, 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 continue to be 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.

Per the Health Department, we are not currently in outbreak status and will continue our visitation, dining and activities per current guidelines.

VACCINE INFORMATION

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

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>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Pence", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert Pence, Administrator