

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Spokane Veterans Home • 222 E 5th • Spokane WA 99202-0538

December 3, 2021

Dear Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives and Staff,

We are writing to keep you up to date on how COVID-19 is impacting the Spokane Veterans Home.

Yesterday, a resident needed to be hospitalized due to their health conditions. Prior going to the hospital, the resident was tested for COVID-19 and this test was negative for the illness. Several hours later, the hospital also tested the resident, and this test was positive. A third test was then conducted by the hospital, and this test was negative. We are working with the hospital, Spokane Regional Health District, and the Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center on additional testing protocols and steps that the Spokane Veterans Home should take.

Out of an abundance of caution and following guidance from the SRHD and VA Medical Center, we are operating under outbreak status. This means that indoor visitation and visiting volunteers will be suspended temporarily. We suggest scheduling window visits and encouraging families who are eligible for compassionate care visits, to schedule virtual visits. Please contact Jeanette or Eric in Recreation Therapy at (509) 688-9209 or (509) 221-0799 to make these arrangements. In addition, residents will receive and eat meals in their rooms. Ancillary staff have been tasked to help assure that the meal trays are delivered timely.

Residents have been tested and these tests have all returned negative. Staff are also 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.

Our Housekeeping, Maintenance and Laundry departments continue to ensure that our facility, equipment, and linen are kept clean and sanitized. Our housekeeping team provides continuous disinfections at all of the most commonly touched surfaces within the building along with the daily cleaning, sanitation, and repair routines that they provide.

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 and staff,
<https://www.dva.wa.gov/covid>.

Sincerely,

Patrick McNabb
SVH - Administrator