



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

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

January 31, 2022

Dear Veterans Home Residents, Family and Representatives,

We are sending this letter to ensure you have the latest information regarding the finding of COVID-19 in our facility. We have had one new Resident test positive which brings our total current number of positive Residents to four. These Residents continue under isolation, and all proper precautions are being taken. We have also confirmed three additional staff members have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Since December 22nd we have had 57 staff and 5 Residents that have been diagnosed with COVID-19. As of January 29th, 28 staff members and one Resident have recovered.

Residents on the affected units will continue to be proactively tested. We are working closely with the Kitsap Public Health District and following guidance from them, the 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 are tested twice each 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.

Other Updates:

Activities and Visitors

We are following guidance from the Kitsap Public Health District and are suspending indoor visits except for Compassionate Care and Essential Support Personnel. Due to the rising number of cases, we would highly discourage any visitations other than end of life at this time. Essential Support Personnel that choose to come to visit a Resident on an Isolated unit will be required to wear a mask and eye protection upon entry.

Facility Maintenance

Our Housekeeping, Maintenance and Laundry departments are also working hard throughout our facility, ensuring equipment and linen are kept clean and sanitized. Our housekeeping team provides continuous disinfections of all the most commonly touched surfaces within the building along with the daily cleaning, sanitation, and repair routines that they provide. For family members who assist their loved ones with their laundry, pickup days will be Wednesdays.

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>. Thank you trusting us with providing care to your loved one.

Please feel free to contact us at 360-895-4700 with any questions or concerns.

Signed,

Dan Murray

Homes Operations Director

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