January 10, 2022

Dear Veterans Home Residents, Family, Representatives, and Staff:

This letter is to notify you that we've received confirmation of an additional staff member who has tested positive for Covid-19. Since December 25, we have had 11 staff members, and 0 residents diagnosed with COVID-19. *As of today, 6 of the 11 staff are recovered, and 5 are still recovering.*

Residents are being tested every 5 days and all residents are regularly screened and monitored for symptoms. We are following guidance from the Walla Walla Health Jurisdiction, Center for Disease Control, CMS (Medicare and Medicaid Services), and our State Department of Health to ensure we are safeguarding our residents and staff.

Employee Screening and Vaccinations: All WWVH staff have been fully vaccinated, are tested twice weekly, and are screened upon arrival to work each day. The screening process includes a series of questions around whether symptoms are present, whether they've been exposed to a positive case, and a temperature check. Staff are asked to report any symptoms that may present after they arrived at work.

Activities and Visitors: No change to current protocol due to all residents testing negative. If additional positives are identified, you will receive updated guidance regarding visitation.

Facility, PPE, Housekeeping: Our Housekeeping, Procurement, and Maintenance departments continue to work 7 days a week to assure that the facility is clean, well-stocked with PPE, and sanitized. Our wonderful custodians provide ongoing thorough disinfection of the most touched surfaces along with their daily cleaning and sanitation routines.

To access current WDVA Covid-19 data and updates, please visit the following website that was developed for families and resident representatives: https://www.dva.wa.gov/covid.

Respectfully,

Lonna Leno
Administrator

Serving Those Who Served