



1600 Veterans Drive  
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November 23, 2020

Family Members,

As of today, we have no residents who are currently positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Due to the increased testing of our residents, we have been able to quickly identify anyone with the virus. As it relates to our work force, we have had 40 of our 185 employees test positive for the virus since May 20, 2020. Seven employees (four who were recently identified as positive) are currently quarantining at home, while 33 have fully recovered and returned to work.

With Thanksgiving less than a week away, we have received additional guidelines from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Understandably, there is concern about travel at this time and the size of holiday gatherings. We felt an obligation to share these alerts with you as well. With more than one million new COVID19 cases reported in the United States over the last seven days, the virus continues to be strong and elusive. We are hoping that you minimize your chances of being infected. Due to the recent resurgence of COVID-19 in our community, it is the recommendation of CMS and the North Dakota Veterans Home that families refrain from requesting your loved one to be out of the facility during the Thanksgiving holiday. Please be aware that any resident who leaves the building for the holiday will be quarantined for 14 days upon return on an observation unit and subject to additional COVID-19 tests. The links to these new CDC and CMS alerts are listed below for your immediate review;

- [CDC Holiday Guidance](#)
- [CMS Holiday Recommendations](#)

We all know that Thanksgiving 2020 will feel different; however, our top priority is to maintain the safety and comfort of your loved one here at the Home. We are asking you to share the latest advisories with family and friends. The decisions you make matter. We urge you to err on the side of safety. As always, please don't hesitate to contact us for further information. We hope you have an enjoyable Thanksgiving.

**Helpful links:**

- NDVH COVID-19 Safety Plan: [Safety Plan](#)
- ND Statewide Map, Ransom County needs to be blue in order to advance to stage 3 in the VP3 reopening phases: [Active Cases of COVID-19 Per Capita](#)
- ND Department of Health COVID-19 [ND Cases](#)

Sincerely,

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