



1600 Veterans Drive
Lisbon, ND 58054
701-683-6500

September 11, 2020

Family Members,

We are writing this letter to give you an update on the status of COVID-19 at the North Dakota Veterans Home, including the number of confirmed cases we have and the efforts we are undertaking to control it. The safety and well-being of our residents is our top priority. We are doing what we can to limit the spread of COVID-19 within the facility.

- Over the last several months we have completed several rounds of testing.
- During this round of testing we found out that we have two individuals that tested positive for COVID-19.
 - One a staff member and the other a contractor.

The North Dakota Veterans Home is staying in close communication with local and state health officials to ensure we are taking all the appropriate steps under current circumstances. We are also following guidance from the CDC and CMS to reduce the spread and impact of COVID-19, such as:

- Enhanced infection control precautions
- Screening residents, staff, and visitors for symptoms
- Limiting visitation and entry of people to the building
- Testing staff and residents for COVID-19 based on current protocols and availability of tests(at this time we will begin weekly testing for residents and staff)
- Carefully limiting communal activities including social distancing and other infection control precautions
- We continue to work with the VP3 group on the reopening phases

When a resident tests positive, we notify residents and their representative(s) of their condition and implement protocols for their care and treatment. We also follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). If a staff member tests positive, we also follow guidance from CMS and the CDC, including return to work protocols.

Due to government privacy requirements, we cannot divulge specific information about the individuals who have confirmed or suspected COVID-19, unless they are your family member and you have the necessary permissions to receive such information.

We know that you may have questions and we encourage you to contact our facility at 701-683-6500.

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](#)

Scheduled Visitation Hours: [Visitation Information](#)

Sincerely,

Mark B. Johnson
Administrator
701-683-6501

Wanda Cavett
Director of Nursing
701-683-6515

Ashley Olson
Director of Social Services
701-683-6530

Kristin Lunneborg
CFO
701-683-6503

Kelly Lyons
Infection Control,
CCP
701-683-6585