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September 18, 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. From our facility testing, we have been notified of 3 positive employees. All residents' tests were negative. 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.

Per CMS guidelines, we will need to cease all indoor and outdoor visitations at this time. As we continue completing weekly testing for all residents and staff we have been directed to stop visitations. We understand this is difficult for you and the residents. Please reach out to your loved ones case manager if you need assistance setting up visits through video chat, calling, texting or other social media formats.

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 for symptoms
- Discontinuing visitation.
- Testing staff and residents for COVID-19 weekly, based on current protocols and availability of tests.
- Carefully limiting communal activities including social distancing and other infection control precautions
- We continue to work with the VP3 group on the reopening phases

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](#)

Sincerely,

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