



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

June 4, 2020

#### Family Members:

We want to inform you that we have a confirmed case of COVID-19. This individual is a staff member, who had not worked for multiple days prior to testing positive. The North Dakota Department of Health decides based on certain criteria if a positive test will be listed on their website as a positive for a facility. According to the ND Department of Health guidelines this case will not be listed on the website. We are striving to be as transparent as possible by sharing as much information within our limits. We are in communication with the ND Department of Health regarding every positive case and we continue to take direction as guidelines evolve. Please use the ND Department of Health website as a guide regarding positive results for long-term care facilities; results can be found by scrolling down on this link.: <https://www.health.nd.gov/diseases-conditions/coronavirus/north-dakota-coronavirus-cases> .

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 North Dakota Veterans Home, including staying in very close communication with local and state health officials to ensure we are taking all the appropriate steps under current circumstances.

We are taking steps based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to reduce the spread and impact of COVID-19, such as:

- Enhanced infection control precautions
- Screening residents, staff, and essential visitors for expanded list of symptoms
- Restricting visitation and entry of people to the building
- Testing staff and residents for COVID-19 based on current protocols and availability of tests
- Postponing communal activities
- The positive individual will not return to work until the standards set by the department of health are met.

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

We encourage you to call us at 701-683-6500 for updates on the status of your loved one. We understand that you are concerned about your loved one, but it is crucial that we continue to restrict visitation to reduce the spread of this virus. We also understand that connecting with family members is incredibly important to our residents. Family members are encouraged to connect with their loved ones through video chat, calling, texting, or other social media formats.

We will contact you if your loved one is suspected or diagnosed with COVID-19. We need your help in battling COVID-19. Please visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) website](#) to learn how you can help prevent the spread in our community. You can find information and updates on our website COVID-19 tab: [NDVH COVID -19 Updates](#) We know this is a difficult time for everyone. We will continue to provide you with updates as they become available. Please know that we are strictly adhering to all directions from the local and state health department.

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

Sincerely,

Mark B. Johnson  
Administrator  
701-683-6501

Wanda Cavett  
Director of Nursing  
701-683-6515

Kelly Lyons  
Infection Control, CCP  
701-683-6585

Kristin Lunneborg  
CFO  
701-683-6503

Jann Neameyer  
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