

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

July 17, 2020

Family Members,

We continue to be thankful that we have had zero cases among the resident population. This takes a team approach which involves residents, family members, and staff remaining diligent in safety precautions. Wearing masks, hand-washing and social distancing has kept us safe thus far and we must not grow weary as we join forces to keep our Veterans and their spouses safe.

Facility wide testing is becoming part of our routine now; our fourth round of group testing was held on Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>. The soonest we foresee having an announcement regarding results will be Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. As always, we hope for no positive results. Please note in order for us to keep moving forward with reopening, Ransom County must be identified as a low-risk level county(blue) on the statewide map found here: Active Cases of COVID Per Capita.

## Safety Plan

We are doing what we can to limit the spread of COVID-19 within the North Dakota Veterans Home. By staying in close communication with local and state health officials we are taking the necessary steps to minimize COVID.

- Prior to June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020, we had two staff with confirmed cases of COVID-19; we are pleased to share that both staff members have recovered.
- On July I5th we tested 256 staff and residents, we are awaiting all the results.
- We have completed over 1,006 tests in our four facility-wide testings.

The North Dakota Veterans Home is staying in close communication with local and state health officials to ensure all the appropriate steps are being done. We continue to follow the guidance from the CDC and CMS to reduce the spread and impact of COVID-19, including:

- Enhanced infection control precautions
- Screening residents, staff, and essential visitors for symptoms
- Following reopening phase guidelines for visitation and entry of people to the building
- Testing staff and residents for COVID-19 based on current protocols and availability of tests
- Following reopening phases guidelines for communal activities including social distancing and other infection control precautions
- Continuing to work through the re-opening phases.

Please feel free to reach out to us with questions regarding your family member. Our goal is to work with you and your loved one to get the visitation process back to normal. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this difficult time.

## 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
Director of Social Services
and Activities
701-683-6534