



New Hampshire Veterans Home
 139 Winter Street
 Tilton, NH 03276



Kimberly M. MacKay
 Commandant

Telephone: (603) 527-4400
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May 8, 2023

Dear Residents and Families,

The designated end of the COVID-19 public health emergency is on May 11, 2023. The time has come! Beginning Friday, May 12, 2023, New Hampshire Veterans Home (NHVH) visitors, staff and volunteers will be able to share their smiles when masks become optional at our Home.

What does this mean for visitors?

We are delighted to announce that we are returning to our pre-pandemic practices. Starting Friday, visitors will be welcome to visit their veteran without a mask and enjoy conversation in common areas of our Home. Your four-legged, furry family members are also welcome to visit after submitting their rabies certificate to the receptionist at our Main Entrance.

When signing in our guest book, you will no longer have to answer visitor health questions. Screening your temperature at the entrance will be voluntary and highly recommended. Although not mandatory, masks may be worn at any time, especially if you feel it may be necessary. To enable us to enact best practices for prevention, we continue to request hand hygiene before your visit and, should you contract COVID within two weeks of visiting, we ask that you continue to let us know.

As always, should you have any illness symptoms, please wait 24 hours after your symptom(s) are no longer present to visit. If you have been exposed to COVID-19, the flu, or other highly-contagious diseases, please continue to wait 14 days prior to visiting to ensure you are not an asymptomatic carrier. This greatly helps us minimize the possible spreading of germs.

Because viruses continue to cause us to pivot to enact best practices, you are always welcome to call us at 603-527-4400 prior to visiting to ensure you have the latest information.

What does this mean for social excursions?

Starting Friday, you will no longer need to contact us for social excursions that will be happening during times when medication administrations are not needed. Should you wish to go on an outing during a time when medications are needed, plan the outing by calling the NHVH Social Worker at least three weekdays prior to your outing. If you don't know when medications are administered, Social Workers can find out that information for you. Our Social Work team members are:

LEDU & Welch neighborhoods:

Stephanie Libby –Welch: Highland Hall
 603-527-4432 or Stephanie.A.Libby@nhvh.nh.gov

Lisa Hale – LEDU Ground: Alan Shepard, John Stark & Franklin Pierce
 603-527-4878 or Lisa.A.Hale@nhvh.nh.gov

Tarr Neighborhoods:

Cara Sedgley – Tarr North: Sunapee Hall, Newfound Hall & Welch: Cardigan Hall
 603-527-4422 or Cara.B.Sedgley@nhvh.nh.gov

Melissa Libby – Tarr South: Liberty Hall, Freedom Hall & Independence Hall
 603-527-4812 or Melissa.A.Libby@nhvh.nh.gov

Continued on Reverse

If you're not feeling well or otherwise unable to come in person, video visits continue to be welcome by calling our Recreation Therapist team at:

Tarr North & Tarr South

Duain Cook: 603-527-4466 or Duain.J.Cook@nhvh.nh.gov

Life Enhancement Dementia Unit (LEDU)

Jennifer Mitchell: 603-527-4815 or Jennifer.S.Mitchell@nhvh.nh.gov

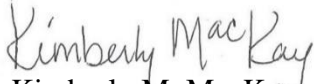
Welch (Highland Hall & Cardigan Hall)

Megan Rowe: 603-527-4835 or Megan.E.Rowe@nhvh.nh.gov

As excited as we are to sunset the mask mandate, unfortunately, COVID is not disappearing with the end of the Public Health Emergency on May 12th. Therefore, there will be times in the future when best practices will dictate the need to don surgical masks or enact other safeguards at the discretion of our Infection Prevention and Control team. We will address these instances with all highly contagious diseases on a case-by-case basis. We will continue to encourage good hand hygiene and maximize opportunities for programs in the fresh air, enjoying our courtyards and beautiful campus.

We have welcomed many new veterans to our Home during the pandemic. Thankfully, we will finally be able to share smiles and more effective communications without the barrier of a mask!

Sincerely,



Kimberly M. MacKay
Commandant