



Margaret D. LaBrecque  
Commandant

## New Hampshire Veterans Home

139 Winter Street  
Tilton, NH 03276



Telephone: (603) 527-4400  
Fax: (603) 286-4242

April 2, 2021

Dear Residents and Families –

We are very happy to revise our visiting guidelines based on the updated guidance from the NH Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS)! This update is influenced by the high rates of vaccination within long term care facilities.

### ***What's New?***

Vaccinations make a difference. Fully-vaccinated residents can choose to have close contact with their visitor during social visits while both resident and visitor wear well-fitting face masks and perform hand-hygiene before and after contact. In other words, residents who are fully vaccinated will be able to hold your hand and give you a hug!

Another update is that visits will now be permitted even if the county positivity rate is greater than 10%. We hope that won't happen, but we continue to plan for the worst and expect the best. Although it has recently risen slightly, the Belknap County positivity rate is currently at 2.5%.

Last but not least, we are able to return to welcoming up to two visitors **and** the designated visitor, for a total of three visitors at the same time. The designated visitor is the primary person the resident or Durable Power of Attorney of Healthcare chooses as the one person to visit should only one person be permitted.

### ***What remains the same?***

Visits are scheduled in advance with Recreation Therapy and each person planning to visit submits a completed 'N-G 157 Limited Visitation Declaration Form' when scheduling their visit.

If you have not yet completed a new form (mailed February 19, 2021), or if you have received a COVID-19 vaccination since completing the new form, please submit an updated form when scheduling your visit. This document is available on our website at [www.nh.gov/veterans](http://www.nh.gov/veterans), under "News, Events, and Publications." Completed form(s) can be submitted however it's easiest for you: via email, mail or brought to the NHVH. All contact information is listed on the form.

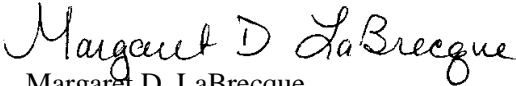
Please be sure all visitors, including youth and young adults, are able to wear a well-fitting, surgical mask over their nose and mouth for the 30-minute visit. If you do not have one, we are happy to provide one for you. Special family circumstances may enable us to permit a visitor under the age of 12; these requests are reviewed individually by the Nurse Manager. (Please note: the Home only has adult-sized masks.)

Compassionate Care and End of Life Visits continue to be offered to residents having a doctor's order needing this level of care. These visits continue to be scheduled by our Social Workers.

Depending on the weather, your visit may be scheduled for indoors or outside. Sarah Wildermann will be planning your visit and will guide you on where to meet your veteran. Feel free to call Sarah at (603) 527-4816 or email [visits@nhvh.nh.gov](mailto:visits@nhvh.nh.gov) with any questions.

We know you, your veterans, and our staff are so excited for these new visiting guidelines. We continue to keep abreast of the latest DHHS guidance and will continue to keep you informed, as well.

Sincerely,

  
Margaret D. LaBrecque  
Commandant