



Margaret D. LaBrecque  
Commandant

## New Hampshire Veterans Home

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May 14, 2021

Dear Residents and Families –

As we continue preventative measures to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, it is with sadness and frustration that we report a positive COVID-19 test result today. During our surveillance testing this week, one unvaccinated employee tested positive. The individual was notified and mitigation measures were immediately put into place. All other test results were negative. The affected employee did not show any symptoms and wore full personal protective equipment (PPE).

The employee worked in two neighborhoods of the Life Enhancement Dementia Unit. During this response phase, medical appointments of a non-emergent nature will be rescheduled for residents of these neighborhoods. Compassionate care and end of life visits will continue to be offered to residents in need. Please note that other visits for these two neighborhoods have been put on hold. Families of residents in the two neighborhoods are being notified by phone as this letter is being written.

Because of this positive case, residents on these two neighborhoods as well as all unvaccinated employees and residents will be tested weekly for two weeks during mandatory response testing with the National Guard. Our next test date will occur on Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.


The NH Veterans Home mitigates the risk of spread to protect the health and safety of residents and employees. Employees continue to wear PPE and continue to eliminate all possible transmission sources of the COVID-19 virus by cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing.

While in the response testing phase, we follow public health recommendations of the NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Division of Public Health Services. This month, DHHS announced they will no longer issue general guidance for long term care facilities. Updated guidance will now come from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, commonly referred to as the CMS. We continue to keep abreast of the latest guidance provided by CMS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and DHHS. We will continue to keep you informed, as well.

Community transmission rates, pandemic information, guidelines and recommendations continue to be ever-changing. We will continue to provide updates.

If you would like more information on COVID-19 in NH, visit [www.nh.gov/covid19](http://www.nh.gov/covid19). For the latest CDC information, visit [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/).

Sincerely,

  
Margaret D. LaBrecque  
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