

## New Hampshire Veterans Home

139 Winter Street Tilton, NH 03276



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

Kimberly M. MacKay Commandant January 10, 2023

Dear Residents and Families,

We hope you had a joyous holiday season. We are grateful that many residents had the opportunity to enjoy time with their family and loved ones. As much as we take precautions to try to keep germs from being shared during these times together, unfortunately, COVID-19 has made its way into our Home. Several Tarr South and Tarr North residents tested positive for the virus. The residents have mild symptoms and are doing well.

Veterans who may have been exposed are being carefully watched; we continue with infection prevention and control best practices including contact tracing, monitoring for symptoms, and testing. Per our policy and to mitigate transmission, we will be temporarily pausing social excursions for **Tarr South and Tarr North residents.** Compassionate care visits and hospice/end-of-life visits will remain open. If you would like to visit, please call 603-527-4400 and ask for the Tarr South or Tarr North nursing station to schedule a visit. Visitors coming for these special visits must wear full personal protective equipment (PPE) supplied by us during their entire visit.

Residents of our Tarr South and Tarr North neighborhoods and impacted staff will be tested as determined by our Infection Prevention and Control team based on guidance from the NH Department of Health and Human Service and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As of today, other neighborhoods at our Home are open to visitors and social excursions. These neighborhoods include Welch and our three LEDU neighborhoods (Franklin Pierce, John Stark, and Alan Shepard). Because the COVID virus causes us to constantly pivot, we recommend that you call us at 603-527-4400 prior to visiting to ensure you have the latest information. Additionally, should you be experiencing ANY of the virus symptoms (as noted at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html), please wait to visit until you are feeling better to minimize possible virus spread.

Since these update letters are sent to you as the veteran's primary contact person, feel free to share this information with others. A copy of this update letter is also posted on our website at www.nh.gov/veterans.

You are welcome to schedule a video visit with our Tarr Recreation Therapist, Duain Cook, at 603-527–4466 (Duain.J.Cook@nhvh.nh.gov), LEDU Recreation Therapist Jennifer Mitchell at 603-527-4815 (Jennifer.S.Mitchell@nhvh.nh.gov), or Welch Recreation Therapist Megan Rowe at 603-527-4835 (Megan.E.Rowe@nhvh.nh.gov). To plan a social excursion for your veteran, contact Midge, Recreation Program Assistant, three or more business days in advance at visits@nhvh.nh.gov or 603-527-4816.

We are thankful that the vaccines have dramatically lessened the severity of the disease for those who contract it. Unfortunately, the vaccine is not able to prevent infection.

As we move forward, we wish you a happy and healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

Kimberly M. MacKay Commandant