



February 5, 2021

Dear Union Grove Members, Friends, and Family:

Today, I am happy to report that we currently have zero cases of COVID-19 in our Home! I'd like to take a moment to thank and commend the staff for all of their efforts. This past year has been difficult as we've navigated our way through a pandemic. While we aren't out of the woods yet, I'd like to give an extra pat on the back to those who continue to work so hard to care for the veterans and loved ones who live here.

As you know, over the past few months we've been able to host some safe visits for family. In order to have these safe visits, we do have to follow guidance set forth by federal entities so I thank you for your patience as we work to schedule these visits. When we are able to have them, we've all truly enjoyed seeing families coming together to reconnect in person. To sign up for a visit, go to: <http://bit.ly/UGVisits>. And, for those of you who would like a glimpse of what we are up to when you aren't here, I encourage you to visit our [Facebook page](#). We regularly post pictures and useful information there. You can find our page by searching for "WisVets."

I'd like to thank members and staff who participated in the vaccine clinics. With members and employees getting their second dose recently, I'm hopeful that we can begin to turn the corner with regard to this virus.

That said, we will continue to abide by the practices that have helped us to manage and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the Wisconsin Veterans Homes, including:

- Actively screening every person who enters our facilities, including staff, for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Daily screening all members for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Regularly testing all members and employees for COVID-19.
- Educating all members and staff to practice social distancing.
- Renewed emphasis on routine environmental cleaning.
- Quarantining positive cases and limiting staff to certain designated caretakers for those members.

Finally, we follow CDC and CMS regulations, policies, and recommendations. Regardless of state or local mask requirements, Union Grove will continue the policies, protocols, and procedures established by health experts and regulators to keep our members and workforce as safe as possible.

Thank you, again for your encouragement and support. Keep warm and stay safe. And, as always, mask up, wash your hands frequently, and stay socially distant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erin Johnston" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Erin Johnston  
Commandant