



May 24, 2020

Dear King Community:

I wrote to you 10 days ago that we would begin testing all staff and members for COVID-19. This testing is part of the overall effort throughout the state to identify all cases of COVID-19 so we can properly isolate people who test positive and quarantine their close contacts - effectively boxing in the virus.

Unfortunately, I am disappointed to report that one member in MacArthur Hall has tested positive for COVID-19. This is the first positive test of any member or employee at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King. The individual who tested positive is asymptomatic, has not left campus recently, and has not had any visitors. Given the circumstances, we will be submitting a second test for this individual to re-verify the diagnosis.

Over the past week, all staff and members at MacArthur Hall have been tested as part of the universal testing I mentioned above. At this time, this member is the only person to have tested positive, but some test results are still pending.

The following steps are being taken on campus, due to the positive result:

- The member has been moved to a quarantine area for COVID-19.
- A very limited number of staff will work with the member. These staff have been trained in infectious disease control and will be wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including N95 masks and face shields.
- Care will be coordinated with the member's primary care physician.
- Staff will follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and the Department of Health Services with regard to contact tracing, additional testing, and quarantining others as necessary.

We have all worked very hard to keep this virus off our campus by limiting visitors, temperature screening anyone who comes on campus, and strongly enforcing our infectious disease control procedures. Although this positive test result may cause you to be afraid or anxious, please know that we have been actively preparing for this situation for months. As soon as the severity of this virus became apparent in March, we set up a quarantine area in a vacant unit in Stordock Hall. We identified staff who would work in that unit. We catalogued our PPE to ensure we had an adequate supply (we do) and put in place measures to obtain more if necessary. Staff have been wearing surgical masks and we have been strongly encouraging members to wear cotton masks, too.

I cannot stress enough how important it is for people to continue to follow the Safer at Home guidance. By staying home as much as possible, wearing masks when we are out, and washing our hands thoroughly and regularly, we are collectively helping to keep our community healthy. We all need to do our part to help keep our essential workers healthy and this positive test only underscores just how important this is.

As we find out the results of the outstanding tests and if there are any new developments, I will be in contact. We want you to be assured that we are open and transparent, and we are doing all we can to keep all staff and members healthy and safe.

If you have any questions, I am happy to address them.

Sincerely,

*Tammy Servatius*

Tammy Servatius  
Commandant