



Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs

Tony Evers, Governor | Mary M. Kolar, Secretary

August 9, 2020

Dear Union Grove Community:

A lot has happened over this weekend that I would like to share with you regarding managing COVID-19 in our Home. Today, ***we have a total of 20 Members and 20 staff with coronavirus.*** This is four more Members than Friday and five more staff. All Members who have tested positive have been notified and we have called each of their primary contacts. We submitted tests for all 153 Members, as well as all staff.

Regarding the impact on staff, we are receiving staff support from the federal VA. The first nursing staff arrived to help today, and we will receive a total of 20 federal nursing support staff over the next couple of days. We have the ability to request more if necessary. The National Guard is going to perform the next round of COVID-19 testing so we can free up our staff who would have otherwise been performing this task. Those tests will begin August 21, 2020.

As a reminder, at this time, only staff and other authorized individuals are allowed on campus. There is a security checkpoint set up. We appreciate that you want to see your loved one, but circumventing security put you, our staff, and Members at risk so please follow our security protocols. You may drop supplies and other items at the checkpoint, but please keep in mind that retrieving these items requires extra staff time so exercise this option judiciously.

We are doing our best to provide everyone information as quickly as possible. Please watch for these official notifications which will always have the latest confirmed information; we don't want you to be misled by incorrect information shared on social media or elsewhere. We post all updates/notifications such as these on our website – www.WisVetsHomesCOVID.com. If you'd like to share these notifications with family members or look back on a previous update, they are all there.

Finally, as always and perhaps more important than ever, for those who have served our country and those who support them, stay home whenever you can, wear a mask when you are out, stay at least six feet away from other people, and wash your hands regularly.

Stay safe and healthy.

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

Diane Lynch, Homes Division Administrator