



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
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Commissioner

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COVID-19 Agency
Update April 11, 2020

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) Residential Program currently has six Veteran Residents who are COVID-19 positive and are being cared for in our Isolation Units at our Rocky Hill Campus. four other Veteran Residents are in various categories of isolation because they either presented with COVID-19 symptoms or were identified through contact tracing to have had contact with a COVID-19 positive Veteran. All of these Veterans recently tested negative for COVID-19 and will be released from isolation after an additional waiting period. Two DVA Veterans are currently in community based hospitals being treated for COVID-19. DVA is following all COVID-19 reporting requirements.

DVA Staff continue to follow the DVA Enhanced Safety and Health COVID-19 Protocols which are reviewed daily and adjusted based on CDC and Public Health updated directives, guidance and best practices. While all off campus general travel by Veteran Residents remains suspended, today the DVA safely operated a series of van trips for Veterans to shop for personal essential items and access an ATM. These trips consisted of a driver, two Veterans and a monitor with social distancing and PPE required as well as enforcement of CDC hygienic guidance. The only other permitted travel is for humanitarian, medical or essential work reasons consistent with the Governor's Executive Orders.

The DVA is very appreciative of the generosity of people who have donated items to our Veterans including snacks, bottled water, coffee, laundry detergent, prepaid cell phones, handmade face masks and laptops.

For those of the Jewish and Christian faith, I wish you a blessed and healthy Passover and Easter and to all, no matter your faith, I wish you safety and health and I know that one day soon we will again gather again at ceremonies, parades and dinners to honor our Veterans and service members.

The complete DVA COVID-19 protocols and other important information is at:
<https://portal.ct.gov/DVA/Pages/DVA-COVID-19-Updates>