



**COVID-19 Agency Update**  
**June 1, 2020**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) Healthcare Center (HCC) has no Veteran Patients in the HCC Isolation Unit after the discharge of a Veteran Patient who recovered from the virus over this past weekend. One Veteran Patient who recently recovered from COVID-19 recently returned to the HCC after receiving care at a community based Hospital for Non-COVID related illnesses. No additional Veteran Patients have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past twenty-seven days.

One Veteran Resident remains in the Residential Facility Isolation Unit after testing positive a second time for COVID-19 early last week and is scheduled for retesting later this week. Two additional Veteran Residents are in the Isolation Unit for protective monitoring after returning from long-term community based care for non-COVID conditions earlier this week. There are currently four Veteran Residents who recovered from COVID-19 in community based physical therapy/rehabilitation programs.

To date, the DVA has tested two hundred and sixteen Veteran Residents and Patients (many tested multiple times) for COVID-19 with twenty-four Veterans testing positive. Of the twenty-four Veteran Residents and Patients who tested positive to date, twenty have recovered from the virus and one Veteran who tested COVID-19 positive is currently in the Residential Isolation Unit on our Campus in recovery. One Veteran Resident and two Veteran Patients with serious pre-existing medical conditions have passed away from COVID-19. Four DVA staff members have tested positive for COVID-19, all of whom have recovered and returned to work consistent with CDC guidelines.

This past Saturday was Commissioner Saadi's last day of a six month Active Duty mobilization to Watervliet Arsenal in upstate NY, where he served as Senior Administrative Law Attorney. While he has been overseeing DVA operations remotely, he returned full-time to the DVA Campus today where he had very productive meetings, virtual and in person (social distant compliant of course) with DVA Veterans and staff.

The DVA strongly encourages all eligible staff to engage in regular COVID-19 testing as we finalize a protocol for scheduled onsite testing of staff. DVA also conducts daily screenings of all staff and Veterans and adheres to the DVA Enhanced Safety and Health COVID-19 Protocols and modifications which are available, along with other important information, at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DVA/Pages/DVA-COVID-19-Updates>.