



COVID-19 Agency Update
May 29, 2020

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) Healthcare Center (HCC) currently has one Veteran Patient in the HCC Isolation Unit and while improving, has serious underlying pre-existing medical conditions so his status remains guarded. A second Veteran Patient who was recently in the Isolation Unit remains in a community based Hospital for Non-COVID related acute care treatment and may return to the HCC within the next several days. No additional Veteran Patients have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past twenty-four days.

One Veteran Resident remains in the Residential Facility Isolation Unit after testing positive a second time for COVID-19 earlier 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. Today we received the test results for twelve Veteran Residents swabbed yesterday, each of whom tested negative for the virus.

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, eighteen have recovered and two Veterans who tested COVID-19 positive are currently in the HCC and Residential Isolation Units on our Campus in various stages of recovery. One Veteran Patient remains in a community based Hospital. 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.

Special thanks to the many donors who have provided a variety of much needed items for our Veteran Patients and Veteran Residents including hundreds of handmade and commercial facemasks, toiletries and personal needs items, craft kits, snack foods and a variety of personal electronic media devices and phones which were essential in facilitating contact between Veterans and their family and friends as well as with federal and state agency support programs.

The DVA continues to facilitate the testing of staff and conducts daily screenings of all staff and Veterans along with adherence to DVA Enhanced Safety and Health COVID-19 Protocols which are available, along with ongoing COVID-19 Protocol modifications and other important information, at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DVA/Pages/DVA-COVID-19-Updates>.