



South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs

Michael J. Fitzmaurice South Dakota Veterans Home

01/10/2022 - Dear Resident, Resident Representative and Staff

We are currently in what CMS defines as Outbreak Status. This occurs and status remains in place for 14 days each time we have a new case of covid in staff or resident. Testing and surveillance for Covid increases during outbreak status based on contact tracing.

Currently the total COVID19 **active** cases in staff is (Five) and (Zero) **active** case in residents. Most recent date of a positive case of covid at SVH is 01/10/2022.

Due to increasing cases at SVH ALL staff are required to wear eye protection in addition to their facemasks, this decreases chances of high-risk exposures occurring.

Activities are available while following core principles of infection prevention and we encourage residents to tune into the internal channel 88 to see the activities schedule.

Visitation continues as per current visitation guidelines, visitors do have to use the screening kiosk to sign in and out, reminder that during outbreak status the visitor must keep their mask on even while in the resident's room.

Core principles of infection prevention that are posted throughout the facility are of utmost importance and **we highly encourage all residents to wear masks when out of their rooms.**

Residents may go on outings; each outing must be requested through the residents RCC – a risk assessment is completed and depending on the risk assessment of outing and whether the resident is vaccinated or not the resident may or may not have to quarantine upon return. Residents must sign out and sign back in with their household.

If you have any questions regarding your loved one's care, please call their Resident Care Coordinator at 605-745-5127 extension:

Nasa and Stars & Stripes – Natalie Hooper –1500229 Veterans Lane & Old Glory – Rebecca Phippen– 1500444

Custer and Joe Foss – Natalie Hooper –1500229 South Pacific and JASCO – Susan Stava –1500506

We continue to follow all precautions based on state and federal guidelines as well as CDC and DOH recommendations to ensure the safety of our residents and staff. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, you can call 605-745-5127 ext.1500116.

Sincerely, SVH Leadership Team

For most current COVID status updates for SVH please call 605-745-5127 and press option 9

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