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THEY PROTECTED YOU – HELP US PROTECT THEM

PIERRE, S.D. – The Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home (Home) is taking preventive measures to ensure continued care for our residents in a safe and healthy environment.

It is in the best interest of our residents to limit visitors. All activities provided by outside volunteer groups have been cancelled until further notice.

“We are asking people to be understanding and will work with families to ensure they can still see their loved ones through video conferencing options like Skype,” said Brad Richardson, superintendent for the Home. “Requests to see family members will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and decisions will be made based on what’s good for the resident and the Home as a whole.”

Before entrance to the Home is permitted, visitors will be surveyed about their health and recent travels as well as having their temperatures taken.

“Family members, staff, volunteers, visitors, and vendors have been notified of the steps we are taking to raise awareness and work in preventing the COVID-19 from getting into our Home,” said Greg Whitlock, secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs.

“We are also focusing on maintaining a healthy workforce so we can continue to provide the excellent service our heroes deserve,” said Richardson.

Guidance is evolving, and we have designated multiple individuals within our organization to review information distributed by the South Dakota Department of Health and CDC frequently in order to share updated information with our partners and take appropriate action.

Questions regarding the Home’s procedures can be directed to the Home at 605-745-5127 x1500116. Public information can be found on the South Dakota Department of Health’s website: <https://doh.sd.gov/news/coronavirus.aspx>.