



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

LA SALLE VETERANS' HOME  
1015 O'CONOR AVENUE, LA SALLE, IL 61301  
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JB PRITZKER  
GOVERNOR

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ACTING ADMINISTRATOR

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October 24, 2022

Dear Friends and Family of the Veterans' Home at LaSalle:

Over the course of the past week, cases of COVID-19 have increased among the staff and residents of the Veterans' Home at LaSalle. We remain diligent within all units and common areas of the home to ensure the safety of each resident. We are caring for and isolating those who are infected. We are encouraged that the cases have been mild presenting mostly as cold-like symptoms, and no one has required hospitalization. We realize that the fluctuations in COVID-19 throughout the pandemic have been upsetting, and we assure you that we continue to remain diligent in our execution and monitoring of policies and procedures.

Please note that if your loved one has been impacted by COVID-19, we will be reaching out directly.

Our top priority is the health and safety of our military veterans and the heroic staff who care for them. We are following recommendations from local health officials, the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs, and the Illinois Department of Public Health. The IDVA Infection Preventionist along with experts from the Illinois Department of Public Health have been onsite this week to evaluate and provide counsel for mitigation. We are continuing health screening of staff and residents, robust testing, maintaining social distancing practices, wearing face masks, using gloves and gowns when indicated, and cleaning and disinfection protocols.

Visitation has not been discontinued, but we are discouraging indoor visits. It is safer for visitors not to enter the facility during an outbreak. This weekend is expected to be beautiful weather for an outdoor visit. If you are not feeling well, we ask that you postpone a visit until your symptoms subside.

Please adhere to the following guidelines if you are planning a visit:

- Visitors must always wear masks.
- **A COVID-19 rapid test will be required upon entrance to the home.** Exceptions will be made for extreme medical situations on a case-by-case basis.
  - All visitors under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
  - All visitors will be screened upon entrance. Visitors who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 will not be granted entrance.

- After screening, all visitors should report directly to the resident room / designated visiting location and remain in that location for the duration of the visit.
- No more than two visitors per resident are allowed for an in-room visit, due to social distancing requirements.
- If a resident or a visitor requests additional individuals to be present, facility staff will offer alternative visiting space, if available, to accommodate their request.
- All visitors should physically distance from other residents and staff of the facility.
- Hand hygiene is required prior to and after each visit.
- Consumption of food items should not occur during any in-room visit.
- Visitors may use the restroom in the main hallway only.

Visitation is contingent on compliance with these guidelines. Visitors who are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention will not be permitted and will be asked to leave.

Please call with any questions. As always, our top priority is the health and safety of our veteran heroes and the devoted staff who care for them. We are thankful that many tools are at our fingertips now to help us weather this outbreak, including vaccines, masks, the direct consultation from IDPH, dedicated infection prevention training and best practices.

We wish to thank you in advance for following our visitation guidelines in an effort to keep you and your loved one safe.

Sincerely,



Dena Robbins  
Acting Administrator