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STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

ILLINOIS VETERANS' HOME AT LASALLE
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ADMINISTRATOR

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November 15, 2020

To residents, families or responsible parties, and staff of the Illinois Veterans Home at LaSalle:

We continue to be committed to communicating with you in a responsible and transparent manner about COVID-19 (coronavirus). Since our last COVID-19 update there have been twelve (12) additional cases at our home. Since the beginning of the crisis we have had a total of 93 positive residents and 90 positive employees. Unfortunately, we have lost an additional two (2) Veterans bringing the total number of Veterans with COVID-19 who have passed away to fifteen (15). We are following the latest medical guidance and are working with state, federal and local health officials to ensure the continued care for all of our residents and testing and protection of anyone potentially exposed.

As always, our top priority is the health and safety of our Veteran heroes and the devoted staff who care for them. Throughout this pandemic we have been following recommendations from state and local health officials to safeguard everyone at the facility and despite the outbreak we continue to do health screenings of staff and residents, maintain social distancing practices, wear face coverings, use gloves and gowns when indicated, and perform thorough cleaning and disinfection. We are grateful to our team for remaining highly vigilant for signs or symptoms of COVID-19 and for responding swiftly, appropriately, and professionally to any potential cases.

We understand this news can be distressing, which is why we encourage you to contact your loved ones for mutual support of one another. If your loved one has been affected by the virus, we want to offer you the opportunity to visit in person. Please understand this is a risk to your health and safety and though we will provide all the appropriate PPE, we cannot guarantee you will not contract the virus. We continue to offer virtual visits and you can schedule those by calling the Activity Department. We appreciate your understanding and support for any precautions we may need to take. We promise to keep you informed as we do everything possible to bring our home through this outbreak. Our military veterans and our wonderful home staff are strong and resilient people. With your continued support, we will get through this together.

Sincerely,
Angela Mehlbrech

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