



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

MANTENO VETERANS' HOME  
ONE VETERANS DRIVE  
MANTENO, ILLINOIS 60950  
TELEPHONE: 815-233-0303 EXT. 222

JB PRITZKER  
GOVERNOR

TANYA SMITH  
ADMINISTRATOR

LINDA CHAPA LAVIA  
DIRECTOR

April 21, 2020:

To residents, family members or responsible parties, and staff of the Illinois Veterans Home at Manteno:

One of the most crucial things we can do is continue to communicate with you in a timely, responsible, and transparent manner about COVID-19 (coronavirus).

Please note that there has been one (1) additional case of COVID-19 at the Illinois Veterans' Home at Manteno, for a total of three (3) cases. There are three (3) cases in employees and zero (0) cases in residents. This new case is a member of the same household as one of the previously identified cases.

As always, our top priority is the health and safety of our military veterans and the heroic staff who care for them every day. We are following recommendations from local health officials and the Illinois Department of Public Health to safeguard everyone at the facility. This includes multiple health and temperature screenings per shift for staff, maintaining social distancing practices, and intensified cleaning and disinfection protocols. Residents continue to be encouraged to stay in their rooms and minimize movement within the facility.

We are grateful to our team for remaining highly vigilant for signs or symptoms of COVID-19 and for being prepared to respond swiftly, appropriately, and professionally to any potential cases. We will work with public health officials both to clear positive staff for return once they have recovered and to determine needs for testing and/or quarantine for anyone potentially exposed.

We understand this news can be distressing, and we encourage you to contact your loved ones for mutual support of one another. Our activities and social services staff continue to develop leisure activities, in accordance with safe social distancing practices, to care for the psychosocial wellbeing of our veterans. We promise to keep you informed as we do everything possible to keep our residents safe. Our military veterans and our wonderful home staff are strong and resilient people. With your continued support, we will get through this unprecedented time together.

Sincerely,

Tanya Smith, MSN, RN, LNHA  
Administrator