



NEWS RELEASE
Nevada Department of Veterans Services
"SERVING NEVADA'S HEROES"

Contact:
Julie Dudley
Communications Director
6630 S. McCarran Blvd.
Bldg. C., Suite 204
Reno, Nevada 89509
Dudleyj@veterans.nv.gov

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Northern Nevada State Veterans Home
First Round of COVID-19 Outbreak Testing Completed

(Sparks, Nev.) – The Northern Nevada State Veterans Home (NNSVH) completed its first round of COVID-19 testing since Nevada reopened and has been notified that seven additional residents tested positive for COVID-19.

With these new results, the NNSVH has had a total of 15 residents and 14 staff members test positive for COVID-19. These residents are in isolation and the staff members are self-quarantined at home, and continue to be either asymptomatic or are stable condition with mild symptoms.

Ten veteran residents who tested positive for COVID-19, while in stable condition, have been moved to the Reno VA Hospital where they are receiving 24/7 medical care in a specially designed COVID ICU level of care unit.

"We are increasing the frequency of testing from every seven days to at least twice a week to help us get ahead of this and turn it around," said NNSVH administrator Mike Ball. "Thanks to the Reno VA for continuing to assist with the care of veteran residents, so that our staff can focus on the care of our other veterans and spouses. All residents who tested positive are in stable condition with mild symptoms or asymptomatic."

Those who tested positive must have two consecutive negative test results before they may transition back from the isolation unit or return to work. The NNSVH is working with the Nevada Office of Public Health Informatics and Epidemiology to support contact tracing necessary to mitigate the spread of the virus.

"By increasing testing frequency, we will identify positive cases even earlier and thereby limit to the extent possible exposures, and begin therapeutic treatments as soon as possible," said Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS) Director Kat Miller. "Our dedicated clinical teams continue to work with local, state and federal partners to do everything we can to protect our residents and team members."

Access to the home remains limited to team members and essential vendors only. Additionally, anyone entering the building is required to undergo screening. Updates on the NNSVH is available by calling (775) 418-5026. The phone line is updated regularly. For more information and resources on Nevada's response to COVID-19, please visit <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/>.

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