



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Walla Walla Veterans Home

92 Wainwright Drive • Walla Walla, Washington 99362 • 509-394-6800

August 28, 2020

We are writing today in our continued effort to keep you informed on what is happening at Walla Walla Veterans Home.

As counties transition into different phases of the governor's Safe Start Plan, Walla Walla Veterans Home will slowly start allowing more compassionate visits, with families meeting their loved one on our campus. With that said, resident health and safety is our primary concern. There will be strict visitation rules with guidance from the governor's office, Department of Social and Health Services, and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. We are confident that together we can ensure safe visitation while reuniting our residents with family and friends.

Starting September 2nd, next Wednesday, family members will be allowed to make scheduled visits to see their loved one (maximum of 2 family members per visit). These compassionate visits will be 30 – 45 minutes in length and located outside the Community Center on the east, or interior, side. Social distancing will still apply. All visitors will be required to wear masks. We ask that no gifts, clothing, or food items be exchanged during visits. This will help prevent the spread of infection. If you have something you would like to drop off, we will accommodate a no contact drop off, per usual. There will be a screening station where temperature checks, wellness questionnaire, and hand sanitizing will take place.

As we look forward to having many of you back on campus, being fair and equitable to everyone is essential. Being on time, and not cancelling the visit will maximize everyone's opportunity to spend time with one another. With our current staff, we will have appointments Monday – Friday in the afternoons. These visits must be scheduled. Our initial goal is to provide every family at least one visit before the end of the summer.

We have gone to great lengths to keep the COVID-19 virus out of Walla Walla Veterans Home. To date, we have not had any confirmed cases in our resident population. We hope to keep it that way. If this situation changes, visits will unfortunately have to be put on hold. We will share information with you as it is available, and ask for your continued patience and support. Our ultimate goal remains to keep COVID-19 out of our Home and it will take everyone's continued efforts for us to be successful. If the guidelines to these visits are not followed meticulously, we will have to cancel them. Please be respectful and patient.

If you would like to schedule a visit with your loved one, or have questions, please speak with Tonya Williams, Recreation Director (509-394-6809) and leave her a message. Recreation staff will return your call and schedule.

Sincerely
Daniel Knapp, Administrator