

FAMILY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Location: Washington State Penitentiary	Date: 8/6/2022	Time: 8:30-10:00

Teleconference details: MS Teams Meeting

Meeting Attendees		
Department/facility co-chair: Steve Barker	Family co-chair: <u>Tina Wright</u>	
Facility/council secretary: Debra Gilbreth	Family secretary: <u>Gail Molina</u>	

Members present: <u>Tina Wright, Connie Hollis; Carrie Montoya; Karen Cain, Gail Molina, Megan Miller, Camryn Ramirez, Wendy Dubinsky, Dean Dubinsky, Rich McCabe, Nicole Armstrong</u>

Non-council member attendees: <u>Steve Barker, Assoc. Superintendent; Monica Ritter, FRA2; Crystal Abdulwahid HSM1; Wes Marcum, Cl General Manager; Alonso Pezo Salazar, Director -Infection and Prevention Control; Jim Cerna, Business Manager; Jordan Kisling CRT, Scribe</u>

Agenda

Old business

Topic	Discussion/Key Points	Next Steps
Welcome & Introduction (Steven Barker)	Introduction of all those in attendance. Agenda Management: Steve Barker Timekeeper: Dean Dubinsky	
CCPC Report	 LFC question: Were flier put out separately from the activity bags per June 6, 2022, meeting? Or could fliers be laminated and put out in the holding area? Yes. Fliers were hung on the walls in the visiting rooms. I also sent out a kiosk to the whole prison population asking them to share information about Local Family Council (LFC) and Lodging Assistance Program (LAP) and told them to have family and friends contact me for more information or go onto our website at DOC.WA.GOV. I received a handful of calls Fliers were not laminated because we were told the LAP program was changing to include a Gas Voucher. That program was finalized on July 26 and is now called the Lodge and Transportation Assistance Program (LTAP). That information was emailed out to all registered families on July 26 at 9:49 am. Clerical is now laminating information cards for the visiting room tables. 	 Date when laminated fliers will be at the tables: September Contact person for follow-up on fliers: Debra Gilbreth

	• LEC question: What is the undate on the Read-to-Mo	
	 LFC question: What is the update on the Read-to-Me Daddy program? Program was started 15 years ago. Used to take a long time to get to each person, recording and sending them out. 	
	 I am currently working on bringing the program into the 21st century with the ability to record digitally and sent it out that way instead of mailing out DVD's. I have a message out to HQ IT asking how to structure this and I am waiting to hear back from them. 	
	 Update on Back-to-School backpack Give-A-Way. Accepting applications until August 12th. Program is for students aged 5 to 24 years of age. A backpack filled with grade appropriate school supplies will be mailed to all approved students. Students must be on the I/I approved visit list. 	
	 Volunteers We have held several volunteer orientations. Volunteers have been coming inside WSP since the end of May and the services have been slowly increasing. Working with the religious volunteers to create their schedules for Medium Custody, East Complex, and the BAR units. IIBF 	
	 In June spent some of the IIBF budget with the focus of on-site events for the Back-to-school fair, A paint party with a significant other, and crafts with dad. Waiting for the new Safe Start to come out giving approval to have on-site events with guests. 	
Family Services Report	Steve Barker: Bill Copeland is no longer with Family Services. He was moved to Correction Specialist position. We don't know who will be in charge of FS and what it will look like yet. They are pairing down the Family Services unit and moving up the emergency unit and we are waiting for an update on this. • Where do families go for Family Services help now? • Families can take their Family Services questions to Dawn Taylor. She works in that unit.	Contact for Dawn Taylor in the Family Services unit – dmtaylor@DOC1.WA. GOV
Statewide Family Council Updates	Megan Miller (Statewide Family Council Representative): Last Statewide meeting was a 5-hour hot mess. They sent out the five-hour video instead of notes. Jpay new tablets for WSP scheduled for Jan 2023.	Steve Barker – updates on the tech coming on August 12 th and ask about

TV issues

- O Problem with facility was that we had a lot of copper that then moved to fiber optic and then back to copper. Anything that isn't 5G was shut down last week. Mr. Siler will have a tech from Buford satellite will be here 8/12 to tune equipment and hopefully work out any issues and return all channels to working. BAR 40, V/W All but 5G, 6/8 all but 5G, DEF should have over 40, IMU/S have some channels still go in an out.
- BAR channels come in black, or pixelate, some saying that they require a code.

Inmates are still wondering why they have a tv deduction AND funds taken from the IIBF for TV, when the system isn't working properly. What is the DOC doing to hold Buford Satellite accountable for keeping the system maintained?

Mattresses

- Were supposed to start coming in on 9/13. CI factory for Mattresses at Coyote Ridge was closed due to covid.
- We should be getting around 300 hundred each week.
- A team will be put together to switch them out when the time comes.
- Replacing each mattress in the whole facility
- We are in line not sure how the closure will affect us

Weights

- Machines that don't work. Rust damage due to weather.
- Can equipment be moved inside?
 - In the past there was an inside weight room in EC but due to drilling to nail down equipment it caused the floor to cave in
- Rowing machines were just installed recently, and reports have been made that they have no resistance.
 - (The Recreation Supervisors have been made aware and will set up an appointment with a local vendor for repairs.)

Shade outside?

- Not around the weight piles unfortunately due to security/line of sight concerns.
- Who is in charge of all of this?

authorization code issue. (These questions were sent to Keith DeFiltch for follow-up.)

Steve Barker – Ask

Recreational Supervisor's about the broken equipment specifically the rowing machines. (When asked about broken equipment the recreation supervisor was not aware of any broken rowing machines) Who does the LFC contact to follow up on broken equipment? It is not the LFCs role to contact anyone about broken Recreation Equipment. The Incarcerated Individual should report broken equipment to the **Recreation Supervisors**

Mr. Cerna – Keep updated on the replacement of mattresses

or if it is in the unit

Sergeant.

recreation areas, to the Unit Manager or

Who does the LFC contact, to follow up on tv issues, since the deadline for a fix has passed and there are still tv issues? It is not the LFCs role to make contact with anyone about the TV systems. The Buford Satellite technician was here on

 We currently have four Recreation specialist who are in charge of recreation in the facility. They report to Mr. Barker. 	8/19 and fixed the equipment for all areas with the exception of the BAR units. The BAR units television needs another piece of equipment installed and then calibrated before it

will be at 100%.

Currently the BAR units have 20 channels.

New business

Topic	Discussion/Key Points	Next Steps
Action Item – Visiting – Check in, holding, and Visiting room areas	 Visiting is moving right along Not many changes have occurred in the previous month There is still no news on vending machines The free photo program is being looked at to continue indefinitely. Photos are not being offered during visits consistently. Questions: Who is responsible for keeping bulletin boards updated in the visiting area and check in areas? Is there a policy as to who or what will maintain these bulletin boards? If so, the LFC would like this policy posted in the minutes. Debra Gilbreth and I are responsible for keeping up the bulletin boards, it is actually a part of the LFC Policy 530.155 that is also posted on the bulletin boards. How do we keep all the friends/family related information easily accessible to visitors? The bulletin 	Sgt. Harvey will speak with Unit Managers about the meals for those that go to visiting. Action Items: Sgt. Harvey to respond to highlighted comments/questions:

- There has not been any updates Has Sgt.
 Harvey attempted to get info put on the tv monitor? Updates?
- Why doesn't staff know about LFC information?
 - Staff's job is safety and security of the institution, the incarcerated, and visitors.
 What information would you like them to be more well versed on? Visiting staff should know what the LFC is and how to refer friends and family, particularly because they are the ones in contact with these people. Especially since the Family Services Department seems to be in the process of being dismantled.
- Why do staff get to sit in groups close together eating and drinking with no masks while the incarcerated and visitors cannot take water to the table or remove their masks for any reason?
 - Because staff do not get a "Break" and must eat sometime during the day, the time between visits is spent sanitizing the room, preparing for the next visits, and processing visitors. The same theory as to why the incarcerated get to eat together as they are the same cohort, these staff are together every day, and they are all vaccinated. There are 2 or 3 rooms in which staff can sit and eat their meals in the visiting areas. Vaccinated are getting and spreading Covid as well. Latest CDC guidelines doesn't differentiate between the two.
- Why isn't it automatic that meals are saved for the incarcerated who have gone for a visit?
 - That is a good question that I will address with the Unit Managers. I imagine the main reason being, in the past most people did not return from the visit to the unit hungry, and our practices have not caught up to current protocol. What is the latest on this? Inmates also want to know if they are going to be able to reheat their food?
- Why do the incarcerated and visitors get penalized heavily for pulling down their masks for a child or a person who is hard of hearing to be able to communicate with them?
 - I would need to know the definition of "penalized heavily" our practice is to give reminders to people to please wear your mask. There has only been 1-2 people this

	year penalized in the visiting room for not wearing their mask, and even then, it was only after repeated reminders, and no justification given from the people being asked to stay in compliance. Visitors witnessed an incarcerated individual lose their second visit with their family due to pulling their mask to kiss and hug a young child, and not replace it fast enough (though the individual wore the mask the entire visit previously.)	
Action Item – EFV's	Wendy D/Diane H: The EFV policy is currently being updated so it is in transition. The policy tells the process and who can apply for EFV. Not everyone will be accepted for various reasons. Families have to be able to prove they are related and send in certified copies of proof. Follow all directions, submit all paperwork exactly how its stated. The approval process goes through a lot of verifying, there are background checks, they involve health services dept and then all the paperwork goes to the superintendent and then back to HQ's. It's not a quick thing. It shouldn't normally take 17 months like it did for Wendy D. but that was due to COVID delays. Make sure to keep copies of all your paperwork, send it certified mail and write a cover letter. How does an incarcerated person and or family appeal a denied EFV application? This is done through HQ's and the appeal goes through the assistant secretary's office. How can the length of time for approval be shortened? Can take about 8 to 10 weeks to be approved by HQ. There are a bunch of different parts that have to be verified in lots of different areas. Submitting everything at once can make things go smoother. What applying for an EFV looks like from a family members point of view? Make copies of what you send just in case something gets lost If you have questions talk to someone in the visiting department at Headquarters.	590.100 Under review being updated.
Action Item – Policies	Tina W. Policy about inmates being part of the LFC meetings is one size fits all but with having five different custody levels at WSP we would have to have 5 separate meetings.	Family Councils Policy – DOC 530.155

	 Is there a policy as to who or what department is responsible for keeping policies updated on each unit? If so, the LFC would like this policy and other related policies posted in the minutes. These manuals are updated in the unit by officers normally, but they can be hard to keep up with when policies are changing daily. Can policies be read on the unit without having to pay for a copy to read what they need? Each unit has a manual that the incarcerated members can check out and take to their cells to read. This is partly so that large amounts of paper are not kept In cells which can cause a fire 	Wondering if inmates could join LFC remotely The infrastructure is not currently there but it is being worked on. Parents/family of tier reps would not be able to be part of meetings they are part of.
	 Why are we only seeing input/comments/concerns from Baker/Rainier, Delta, and Adams? What about the other units? Policy about inmates being part of the LFC meetings is one size fits all for the inmates to be a part of the LFC meetings, but with having five different custody levels at WSP we would have to have 5 separate meetings. Due to recent events tier meetings haven't really been happening. We can only include in the notes the feedback that we received, and we don't always get feedback from every unit. Policies are constantly being updated. Mr. Barker has a meeting on Monday with the executive team to see what can be done. Can the manuals maybe be available on the tablets to make they more accessible? Update from meeting? 	Steve Barker – about Policy books in units - Discussed at the Executive Team Meeting. Will follow up with unit staff to ensure that policy manuals are updated. LFC asked if policies could be put on tablets now, not waiting for the new tablet roll out. That is a statewide issue that should be brought up at the statewide family council meeting.
JPAY	Steve Barker: • Will the incarcerated get to keep their music, games and purchased items when tablets are assigned? • Yes, the previous content will transfer over to the new tablet. Any games that are not transferrable, we will provide a game that is compatible. We ill provide a list during the site's go-live • What will happen with money on the phone books when the switch to JPAY happens? • Will have to ask Keith DeFlitch at JPAY as was not sure	Kathy Swope – kathy.swope@DOC1. WA.GOV Answer as to what happens with money on the phone books when we switch? The money on the books transfers over when they switch to the new tablets.

Who is the contact person for unresolved JPAY complaints particularly kiosks that are not being maintained and poor-quality video visits? We will have assigned Onsite Administrators that will assist with any issues with the tablets or terminals used for Securus Video Connect. WSP's Onsite Admin will be Kathy Swope. Can the trouble ticket app be installed on to tablets? O Yes, the Comm Center app will be available on the tablets to submit trouble tickets. What will happen with money on the phone books when the switch to JPay happens? Steve – I will have to ask JPay They are putting Wi-Fi transmitters on each tier in each unit so that every cell should have access to Wi-Fi for their tablets. They have finished with Golf and start on Fox unit on Monday 8/8. They are upgrading kiosk machines and wiring. Carrie/Dr. Pezo Crystal - Will look into Can Dr. Curl know about LFC calls so that she can sending out messages attend since she is the medical director of WSP? about mental health She is aware of the meetings and can month/screenings in hopefully participate in the future the future to bring There was a backlog of TB testing, where is WSP at awareness to it. with catching that up? Due to covid there was a delay in the annual Action item – coming screenings statewide. Local WSP team is back to the rest of the working at the moment on checking names questions. and getting caught up with testing. That way they aren't testing those that have been Action item – local tested before for a second time. Action Item team to follow up on o Hopefully will be caught up in the next month Medical/Mental status of CPAP or two. Health machines being on Are people who come into WSP offered the Covid back order. refusal form before going to assigned units or what is that process? Covid refusal form is used to ask the patient if Action item – Follow they want to stay in a unit that is completely up with HQ's about on quarantine or if they would prefer to be formulary changes for moved to a different location if possible. Melatonin to see if it Offered to those coming into WCC at intake, can be approved for a most of those already in DOC at the normal wider amount of facilities have filled out these forms in the patients. previous months due to outbreaks. HQ is working on a database for the responses Other questions will that can be access by other facilities after a be followed up with

transfer.

- July was Minority/Mental Health awareness month, what was done to bring awareness to the population?
 - We don't usually send out messaging out to the incarcerated. The LFC is asking, "Why not?"
- Social wellness month was also in July can you please explain how the population partakes in this
- We don't usually send out messaging out to the incarcerated. The LFC is asking, "Why not?"
- What is policy for the medical providers when an abnormal lab is received? Time frame for follow up.
 - A PA or physician is always on call
 - When a lab comes back it is put in a physician's box
 - The physician should be notified the same day an abnormal lab is received; "quickly and on time"

Inmates and families are reporting that abnormal labs are NOT being followed up on, in a timely manner.

- Are those who are caring for TB patients working throughout WSP or are they assigned to that particular assignment?
 - We have a limited clinical team in each facility.
 Staff are not assigned specifically, and full PPE is used at all times when required. Measures are taken both to protect the nurse/provider and the patient.
- Why isn't pain or infection considered urgent?
 - Limitations on medications that can be approved even for chronic pain.
 - Usually, can be seen during sick call if it is not
 - During the beginning with Covid quarantines medical responses were slower. Now that restrictions are being changed those that are on quarantine can now be seen, dental is also changing to this to help with pain management.
- CPAP issues
 - Issues with the machines being on back order.
 Machines being used by DOC due to the quality needed

Please note that those who need CPAPs and NOT getting them are at risk for cardiac issues.

 Are there other options for sleep besides antidepressants? email or next meeting if needed

WSP Health Services call 509-524-7502

	There are good sleep aid such as melatonin but we are limited in how clinical staff can use it. Some aids are approved for some medical issues but not easily given for others; we have to follow the formulary. This should be followed up. What is done when someone's blood pressure is not normal? Blood pressure that is high but with no symptoms is not normally considered an emergency. It is usually followed	
	with clinical eval and medication. If the II is experiencing complications, they should kite medical staff.	
	Rich	
	 Do they track the number of times they take yard from the inmates, and does this information make it to DOC? 	
	 The amounts and types of closures are tracked and sent up to HQ's level. 	
	 What is being done to increase yard time? When can the incarcerated see some relief and/or improvement? 	
	 If units are not able to run big yard due to staffing shortages, they do still try and run the in-unit small yards so that incarcerated individuals can get fresh air and use the phones. 	
Action Item – Yard	 Are they tracking progress to full employment at WSP and what steps are they taking to get to full employment? 	
Time	 Staffing is at critical levels – currently 88 openings just for CO's. This number doesn't include engineering and support staff positions. 	
	 Mr. Barker was put in charge of recruiting and has a team of about twenty working with him. Interviews are running every other week. 7 	
	officers were hired and went on-line this last week. o 37 applicants for CO positions have been	
	received and are currently waiting for interviews.	
	 Contract talks are being made with local media to get hiring information out to select demographics in our local area. Hiring a 	
	specific "type" of people is harder in our area	

	due to the fact we have 4 prison facilities in a	
	150 miles radius.	
	 Recently attended the local National night out 	
	to recruit and they are holding a job fair on	
	facility grounds on 8/9.	
	 Yards are taken for discipline (fighting), as well as 	
	DOC worker shortages. What message are we sending	
	the inmates when yards are taken regardless of	
	behavior?	
	 Taking yard for both is a bit of a balancing act 	
	between making sure that fights don't happen	
	due to inactivity but also that they don't occur	
	when we don't have the staffing to respond	
	properly to keep anyone from being hurt.	
	property to keep anyone from being fluit.	
	From M. Suhadolnik (Recreation Specialist 4)	
	Some benches need repaired. We do have some vinyl	
	purchased last year but we need the high end	
	(weather resistant plywood and padding).	
	There are various benches that are antiquated that	
	should be replaced.	
	The horse mats for the weight piles in the WC mostly	
	need replaced.	
	All of our large weight bars and curl bars have been	
	rewelded so many times many need replaced. EC and	
	WC need new foam roller pads for leg extension	
	machines	
	Mr. Cerna had to leave before we could get to this section,	
IIBF	running late, so someone needs to get a copy of the report	
ПЫ	he was going to go over.	
	Tina W./Wes	
	Does policy say that there is to be at least one hot	
	meal per day?	
	 At least 3 meals at least 2 hot, exceptions are 	240.100 section 2.5
	holidays, offsite crews, lockdowns, place	
	safety musters.	Wes (Food Services) –
	 Who is responsible for enforcing nutritional policies? 	Follow up on asking
Action Item – Food	The LFC would like to have current pictures of what	why the LFC cannot
	our loved ones are eating and a link to the policies	be given photos of the
	and other nutrition related policies posted in the	food served to I/I's
	minutes.	before it's heated and
	 Annual menus are gone over by Brent Carney 	after it's reheated
	and then sent to the facilities and the facilities	<u>arter it s remedied</u>
	are required to follow the menu guidelines.	
Ī		
	 Does the Statewide Family Council or is this for the LFC to petition "HQ" for this type of information? 	

	 Do families need to go through other State agencies to get this information?
	Pictures Jamie Dawn in charge of food, they are not going to be providing pictures. Brent Carney DOC dietician
	LFC members want to know why pictures cannot be provided, as it makes it sound as though something is being hidden.
	Baker/Rainier:
Unit Tier Questions & Comments	 Laundry room is being utilized as office space currently. Response: This could change but not immediately. Update: (Baker Unit) There is no plan on converting the office space into a laundry room Can II have plants in cells? Response: Currently running only in Adams. Response: CUS will review to see if appropriate for Baker/Rainier. IIBF funds would be needed to purchase supplies. Response: CUS is working to start this. Update: This program will run in Medium Custody, for the time being. Can II have music equipment checkout? Response: Currently only available to Mental Health, Protective custody. Il would like to participate. CUS will speak with Ms. Acosta and Mr. Coleman to see about possibilities. Update: Mental Health funding is used for this program. There is not enough funding to expand the program at this time. Weight card, in the last 24 days of May, weight pile access was cancelled 14 times. Incarcerated individuals are asking for either a refund or free 3rd quarter. Response: REC staff indicate info from HQ will address this in the near future. Update: No information on this topic. This is an issue that we receive direction from HQ about. Concerns over perceived idea that rags and mop heads are being washed in the same loads as clothing. Response: An email was sent to CI Laundry inquiring as to the process. Update: No response from CI. There are concerns over the food service. Response: Will arrange for CI Rep to be at next meeting. Update: N/A??

 Outside windows need sealed/cleaned reports that some are leaking.

Response: Sgt. Lancaster will check during security inspections and put work orders in for any repairs needed.

Update: Work orders have been submitted to fix any windows and clean windows.

 Concerns about property policy dictates 1 package per month. Packages are not being processed on time and sometimes II receive two in a month, then one has to be returned at the II expense.

Response: The problem is staffing has been low and processing has been affected causing delays.

Update: The delays in processing have no bearing on whether a package is returned or not. The issue is when an I/I receives two packages in a calendar month, Policy only allows him to receive one package per month in the property warehouse. The first package that arrives at the facility is the one that is sent to the I/I. Any others received in that calendar month are returned.

- Orientation is being put together to include copies of handbook, LFC brochure, Unit manual.
 Update: Orientations have been occurring at WSP for many years.
- Video camera being used to take stills, some come out blurry.

Response: Will look into training or possible hiring of unit photographer, backgrounds, etc.

Update: New Cameras have been delivered to the units. I have not verified if the picture quality is any better.

Adams:

- Covid protocols and safety, concerns voiced about new variant and how DOC will combat its spread.
 Response: See current COVID guidelines
- JPay is limited by video visiting. Kiosk doesn't allow access 20 minutes before or after video visits. If there is more than one in a day some MODS have no access to kiosk for that day.

Response: Still working on getting video visiting hours extended

Concerns about split afternoon small yard sessions requesting time changes. Also requesting time in the Big Yard at SD during the weekends. Response: A committee is getting together to review the SC movement schedule. Update: Small yard schedule is the same, but expanded to be available to all three units during each session (50 I/I maximum) In cell plants requested. Supplies have been ordered to provide each II with a plant for their cell while housed in Adams Unit. Response: Still working on finding enough starts for the program. *Update:* Plants are provided as requested and as plants are available. Discussed starting a beading group. Curio items currently not allowed in dayroom. Response: Discussion will need to be had with custody about possibilities. Update? No Update • Still not allowed to play basketball in the gym. Can play pickleball, volleyball, handball, lift weights, etc. II are wondering about the logic behind this decision. Response: CUS will get ahold of Rec to find out the reasoning for this. *Update:* COVID protocols have been lifted, different sports and activities are available in the gyms. Legal calls. Currently being made in dayroom, which is loud phones cut off at 20 mins necessitating having to redial lawyers. Response: Working on a legal area for calls and court hearings. Delta: Food is still terrible, seems to be going downhill even more. Need a new vendor for our food. We no longer get a hot breakfast on Saturday. We worked hard to get that and now it's a cold breakfast boat. Would like to have the hot breakfast back. Response: This was discussed in part at the LFC meeting. Unit movement: Would be better if staff would not be so strict on the schedule and if possible open the dayroom/yards up early or close late so there could

be more time out.

	Response: CUS stated she would talk to staff about trying to get the II's out more. An issue that staff has had with that is there are so many individuals who will not be courteous and lock up when it is time, slow walking everything which makes it hard for staff to get extra time for others. Response: CUS requested that the OCL's talk with the unit population and let them know that staff are willing to work on getting folks out more when we can but if they are courteous and lock up when told to then it would be feasible for us to do. Update? Has this improved? Moves need to be done at a time that doesn't interrupt dayroom and unit recreation periods. Response: CUS stated she would talk to the Sgt. Update? Did CUS talk to the Sgt?	
Round Table	 LFC Members Dean – Wi-Fi roll out plan – What timeframe can we see as far as time for Jpay rollout? Engineering is heading up the project if an email is sent to Mr. Barker, he will answer what questions he can about it. Wendy – On Union supply used to be able to print off the month property sheet, everything that is available. They no longer do this? Catalogues should be in the units. Able to print off the bi-monthly food packages July 1 the channel 13 movie channel contract ran out. DOC paid something like 50,000 and it ran for a year. We were able to show newer movies. 	The information about the Union Supply will be provided with the questions answered by Keith DeFlitch from JPAY.

Next meeting location:	WSP MS Teams	Date: 10/1/2022	Time: 8:30-10:00
Comments: Please send	d meeting agenda requests	at least two weeks prior to	the next LFC meeting

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Distribution: ORIGINAL - Family council co-chairs

in October._