




STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

June 26, 2020

To: All Staff and Incarcerated Individuals

From: 
Robert Herzog, Assistant Secretary

RE: Incoming Incarcerated Individuals from Coyote Ridge Corrections Center

We continue to take measures necessary to protect the health and safety of our incarcerated individuals and employees at all facilities. Coyote Ridge Corrections Center (CRCC) began COVID-19 testing of incarcerated individuals across the facility on Wednesday, June 24, 2020.

In order to create capacity and manage the emergency at CRCC, we will need to move some individuals who test negative for COVID-19 to other facilities for an undetermined length of time.

We want to reassure you that we will only transfer individuals who have been tested twice for COVID-19 and received negative results from both tests. This is referred to as a “double-negative testing” which greatly reduces the risk of faulty outcomes. These individuals will have tested negative twice, be isolated for 14 days or more, and will have remained asymptomatic before being transferred.

We understand that receiving incarcerated individuals from CRCC may cause concern. However, we hope the fact they have been tested twice with negative results and have been symptom free for 14 days will help ease those concerns as you welcome these individuals into your population.

Corrections is taking this situation very seriously and doing everything we can to keep our population and our staff healthy and safe during this public health crisis.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to helping us. Please continue wash your hands frequently, practice social distancing, wear your masks as directed and report any symptoms immediately. We will get through this together.

“Working Together for SAFER Communities”