



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
MONROE CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX
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January 15, 2021

TO: All Monroe Correctional Complex Staff

FROM: John Padilla, Incident Commander

SUBJECT: MCC Weekly COVID-19 Update

A [Rapid Deployment Care Facility](#) (RDCF) has been constructed at the Twin Rivers Unit (TRU) for utilization as an alternate housing area for COVID-19 positive individuals that require enhanced medical care. The facility provides 30 additional patient beds and is equipped with [PPE](#) donning and doffing areas, staff office, and air filtration system. The Fire Marshall completed an inspection on January 13, 2021 and a permit for use has been received.



Photo by Lt. Kenneth Hellman

The Washington State Reformatory Unit (WSRU) gym began operating as an alternate housing area for asymptomatic COVID-19 positive incarcerated individuals on medical isolation. Once determined by medical staff to be COVID-19 recovered, those individuals may be housed in custody appropriate housing.

The Minimum Security Unit (MSU) has one tier of incarcerated individuals on quarantine status due to potential COVID-19 exposure. Quarantined individuals are tested for COVID-19 every seven (7) days until all test negative for two consecutive rounds. They will be cleared from quarantine after completing the required quarantine timeline and pending medical approval.

Rapid antigen testing for staff was implemented on January 13, 2021. The test is administered on-site and results are available within minutes. The MCC [staff serial testing](#) team have received training and are responsible for ensuring testing services are available, tracking results and answering questions you may have.

The Department began vaccination of staff and incarcerated individuals based on the [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) and [Washington State Department of Health \(DOH\)](#) recommendations for Phase 1A vaccine dosing prioritization. Staff on the priority list have been sent an e-mail with instructions and information about the [COVID-19 vaccine](#). The vaccine clinic has been setup near the WSRU COVID-19 staff serial testing site.

Staff and incarcerated individuals who receive the vaccine will continue to wear appropriate PPE, maintain social distancing, and be tested for COVID-19.

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