




STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

March 5, 2021

**TO:** All Ahtanum View Staff  
**FROM:** Ruth Hanson, Community Corrections Supervisor   
**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Update for Ahtanum View Work Training Release

On February 24, Ahtanum View Work/Training Release was placed on quarantine status as a result of (2) positive cases of COVID-19 and per the outbreak status protocols in the [WA State DOC COVID-19 Screening, Testing and Infection Control Guidelines](#) and [WA State DOC Work/Training Release COVID-19 Outbreak Checklist](#). As of March 4, 2021, there have been four (4) total resident cases. The COVID-19 positive residents have been temporarily placed in a medical isolation status offsite. To mitigate the spread of COVID-19 at Ahtanum View, we are following appropriate protocols to increase sanitation efforts, screening and serial testing to quickly identify others who may have been exposed and limiting the movement among residents to help eliminate any exposure.

During this time, there will be no resident movement outside of established room schedules with very limited exceptions, such as during an emergency. The facility is implementing a structured response to ensure essential activities continue, such as laundry, meals, showers, recreation, communication and releases/transfers/intakes.

It is imperative that you are wearing your appropriate [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#), as well as social distancing at all times. Stay diligent in washing your hands, sanitizing frequently touched objects and to ensure these things are being done outside of work as well. Please take the time to review the December 2, 2020 memo sent regarding [Required COVID-19 Safety Practices](#), to ensure you are taking appropriate steps to keep you, your families, and those in our custody, as safe as possible. Your health and safety, and the health and safety of those in our custody, is our priority. All medical directives are in accordance with [Washington State Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control Guidelines](#).

There are resources available to address any emotional distress you may be experiencing during this difficult time. The Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team is available to anyone needing help. Important things to remember: we are all here as a team, this is temporary and we will get through this together.

On March 3, 2021, the DOC COVID-19 Medical Team sent an [All Staff memo](#) providing further direction and clarification regarding the requirement and proper use of surgical masks.

I want to thank you for your hard work and efforts, today and every day. Your dedication during this very difficult time is appreciated and so are all of you. It is important to remain strong, support one another, and be kind. Let's all do our part to stay healthy.

***"Working Together for SAFER Communities"***