



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

December 27, 2021

**TO:** Brownstone Reentry Center Staff and Residents

**FROM:** Colleen Pettit, Incident Commander *Colleen Pettit*

**SUBJECT:** Brownstone Facility Wide Outbreak

On December 18, 2021, via regular Serial testing of the resident population, one resident out of the 53 had tested positive for COVID-19 within the 14 days of identifying the first positive case (identified on December 8, 2021). Notifications were made on December 18, 2021 to clinical and Headquarters Emergency Operations Center and this positive resident was transported to an off-site Medical Isolation Facility on December 20, 2021. The close contacts of the second positive resident were placed into medical quarantine and the entire resident and staff population were rapid tested on December 19, 2021. All rapid tests confirmed negative results. As a secondary precaution, we again tested all residents and staff via PCR and from those tests, an additional resident tested positive for COVID-19 This resident was transported to the Medical Isolation and Quarantine Facility within an hour of notification.

Per protocol, any close contacts identified with the third positive were placed into Medical Quarantine. Another round of rapid and PCR testing occurred on December 24 and 25, 2021. The results have been received with no additional positives.

All facility testing is currently being conducted at Brownstone today, while they will be shipped out today, we are also conducting rapid tests to help quickly identify any additional positives.

We will test again via PCR on December 31, 2021, per HQ Medical guidance. Once those test results are received, we will know more about when we will come off of quarantine status. In the meantime, we ask that you are patient in this process and understand that there's no definitive answer to provide the residents to plan for returning to work, programming or any other activities in the community.

There are a lot of moving parts as you can imagine. We are taking the most precaution in keeping everyone safe and following CDC guidelines and the DOC HQ Version 29 Guidelines and Protocols for Screening, Testing and Infection Control.

We understand that this is a very difficult time for residents and staff alike. We truly appreciate everyone's positive attitude and respectful interactions in managing this response. I am always available to field your concerns and ask that we continue working together. This event truly depends on every single employee and resident alike to work together.

Hang in there. We are all working together and prioritizing your health and safety.

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

It is imperative to make sure you continue to wear your appropriate [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#), as well as social distancing at all times. Please encourage and model the same behavior that we expect from our incarcerated population.

Similarly, it is vital that we continue to follow the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) guidelines](#), ensuring to follow the six (6) foot social distancing rule, washing your hands, and keeping areas of the institution sanitized. Staff must remain diligent in wearing your masks at all times, as your safety, as well as your family's, are a priority. Corrections is committed to everyone's safety. We will continue to communicate with you as we progress through this pandemic.