




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

January 7, 2022

TO: All WCC Staff
All WCC Incarcerated Population

FROM: Shawn Brooks, Incident Commander 

SUBJECT: WCC Facility Wide Outbreak

On December 29, 2021 the Washington Corrections Center confirmed that two (2) Incarcerated Individuals from R-1 had tested positive for COVID-19. Due to these positive test results, and per Department protocol, R-1 has been determined to be on Limited Area Outbreak status.

On December 30, 2021, it was confirmed that an Incarcerated Individual housed in R-4 had tested positive for COVID-19. This, compounded by the fact that a staff member who had worked in R-4 recently tested positive, determines that R-4 has also met the criteria to be on Limited Area Outbreak status.

On January 5, 2022 it was confirmed that an Incarcerated Individual housed in R-1 had tested positive for COVID-19. After additional testing, nine (9) other Incarcerated Individuals in R-1 were identified as positive. This group of individuals comprised a cohort that had moved from R-5 to R-1 on January 3, 2022. As a result of these positive cases, it was determined appropriate to rehouse that specific cohort of Incarcerated Individuals in Quarantine housing in R-5 and R-6.

On January 6, 2022, it was confirmed that two (2) Incarcerated Individuals from R-2 had tested positive for COVID-19. Additionally, it was confirmed that an Incarcerated Individual who had recently Transferred from WCC's Intensive Management Unit to another facility had tested positive after arrival. We have now reached a point in time in which we will have to take additional steps to limit the potential exposure of COVID-19 to the WCC incarcerated population.

Beginning January 7, 2022, WCC will be in Restricted Movement status due to COVID-19. This change will impact the incarcerated population's ability to attend regularly scheduled programs, call-outs, and services. Additional information will be sent regarding these changes.

These steps are meant to minimize the short and long-term impact that our response will have on our incarcerated population at WCC. As we move forward in the coming weeks you can expect to see cohorting in the dayrooms and shower/bathroom areas, serial testing of our incarcerated population, and an increased awareness to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) protocols, cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting, and social distancing. It is our hope by taking these measures that we can cut down on the amount of potential exposures and reduce the amount of time it will take to get back to a new normal with our operations.

"Working Together for SAFER Communities"

I am hoping that each and every one of you will be committed to following these standards so we can move past these restrictions as quickly as possible. By working together, I know that we can get past this difficult time and get to a place in which we can all have some relief from the restrictions that this pandemic has brought upon us all.

Thank you all for your cooperation and patience through this difficult time.

It is imperative that everyone continue to wear a Surgical Mask or appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), practice social distancing at all times, and hold the incarcerated responsible to meet these standards. 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.

Corrections is committed to everyone's safety. We will continue to communicate with you as we progress through this pandemic.