



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

January 14, 2022

TO: All Progress House Work/Training Release Staff
FROM: Laura Deckard, Community Corrections Supervisor *Laura Deckard*
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Outbreak for Progress House Work/Training Release

On January 13, 2022 Progress House Work/Training Release (PHWTR) is continuing its placement on quarantine (Facility Wide Outbreak) status as a result of six (6) additionally confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 and per the outbreak status protocols in the [WA State DOC COVID-19 Screening, Testing and Infection Control Guideline](#) and [WA State DOC Work/Training Release COVID-19 Outbreak Checklist](#). Two (2) of the COVID-19 positive residents have been temporarily placed in medical-isolation status offsite. Four (4) residents are residing in medical isolation within PHWTR due to the medical-isolation facility being at full capacity. The two (2) current positive staff cases are continuing to isolate at home. To mitigate the spread of COVID-19, 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, residents will be allowed to take scheduled breaks in the yard as a cohort group (residents residing in the same room) to allow for more time outside. All other movement (no cohort) will be based on the schedules provided with limited exceptions, such as bathroom use and emergency evacuations. The facility is implementing a structured response to ensure essential activities continue; such as: laundry, meals, showers, communication, and releases, transfers and 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 main 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. Additionally, we are all here as a team, this is temporary and we will get through this together.

I want to thank you for your hard work and dedication during this very difficult time. 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”