



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

January 14, 2022

TO: Olympia Work Release Staff and Residents

FROM: Patrick J. Gosney, Incident Commander

SUBJECT: Olympia Work Release Facility Wide Outbreak

The Olympia Work Release was placed on Facility Wide Outbreak status effective January 1, 2022, as result of several positive COVID-19 cases associated with staff and incarcerated individuals. The affected incarcerated population was safely transported to the agency's isolation & medical quarantine facility (Camp Solomon) and the affected staff were denied entry to the facility.

Potential close contacts with the positive residents were researched, reviewed and identified by members of the clinical team. Housing arrangements were made so that the identified close contacts were housed by themselves.

The entire resident population was COVID-19 serial tested via the PCR process Friday, January 7, 2022. All of those tests resulted in negative findings. Another round of Rapid Antigen testing for the entire resident population occurred via the BD Veritor System Monday, January 10, 2022. All of those tests also resulted in negative findings. Additionally, the entire resident population and all staff were COVID-19 serial tested via the PCR process on Monday, January 10, 2022. Those results have not been made available by the laboratory at this time. The entire resident population will once again participate in Rapid Antigen testing January 18, 2022. Once the PCR tests from January 10 and the Rapid Antigen tests scheduled for January 18 come back we will know more about when the facility may be removed from Facility Wide Outbreak status.

Three (3) of the five (5) residents initially transferred to the isolation & medical quarantine facility have been returned to the facility. An additional resident has been cleared to return January 13, 2022, and the remaining resident has been cleared to return to the facility January 15, 2022. We continue to support the incarcerated population with their employment, programming, educational and essential needs.

We continue to take the necessary precautions in keeping everyone safe and following CDC guidelines and the DOC HQ Version 29 Guidelines and Protocols for Screening, Testing, and Infection Control. [Version 30 of the Guidelines and Protocols](#) was disseminated January 13, 2022 and staff will be reviewing the document and implementing the required changes, which includes the requirement for vaccine boosters for those residents wanting to work while the facility is on outbreak status.

We understand that this is a very difficult and challenging time for residents and staff alike. We truly appreciate everyone's patience, understanding and respectful interactions as we navigate through this situation. I have been at the facility almost every day since the onset of the outbreak, and I will continue to do so in an effort to keep everyone apprised and supported to the best of my

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ability. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with your concerns as my team and I are committed to supporting you through this ever-evolving situation.

As you very well know, your health and safety is of the utmost importance to Michelle and I, and we will continue to make decisions to keep you safe.

It is imperative to make sure you continue to wear your appropriate [personal protective equipment \(PPE\)](#), as well as social distancing, at proper cleaning/disinfecting at all times. Please encourage and model the same behavior that we expect from our residents.

Similarly, it is vital that we continue to follow the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) guidelines](#), ensuring to follow the six 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.