



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

**DATE:** January 19, 2022

**TO:** Staff & Residents

**FROM:** Patrick J. Gosney

**SUBJECT:** Olympia Work Release COVID-19 Facility Wide Outbreak – Week 3

On January 1, 2022, Olympia Work Release was placed on Facility Wide Outbreak status as a result of several positive tests within the resident population. Since then, we continue to provide weekly COVID-19 testing to all residents and staff in an effort to identify any additional positive cases. Currently, the facility has two residents residing at the Medical Isolation & Quarantine Facility (IQF). One resident is scheduled to return to the facility on January 24, 2022. A confirmed return date for the second resident who was transferred to the IQF on January 19, 2022 hasn't been determined yet.

The facility is following a structured response to ensure essential activities continue, such as laundry, meals, showers, communication, and releases/transfers/intakes. Your health and safety continue to be our main priority. All medical directives are in accordance with Washington State Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control guidelines.

The facility will continue to follow the agency's COVID-19 testing protocol's as well as the Infection Control Guidelines; currently version 30. Recently recovered residents that are unvaccinated will participate in Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) twice weekly. The ORC provides this type of testing every Monday and Thursday. Recently recovered residents that are vaccinated will participate in Rapid Antigen Testing once a week (Monday's) and return to PCR testing 90 days from the time a positive test was detected. As already in place, all residents departing the facility for work, programming, point-2-points, etc., will be RAT tested first and allowed to depart the facility if the test results are negative.

Residents have access to cell phones to increase communications with staff, friends and family. It is important that you report any symptoms to staff as soon as you become aware. Ensure you follow the quarantine protocols by wearing your surgical mask at all times, disinfect anything that you touch and wash your hands immediately after touching a surface. Please remain in your room, leaving only for restroom use or in the event of an emergency evacuation.

It is imperative to make sure you are wearing your appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), as well as social distancing at all times. This is especially important when residents are going to and from the bathrooms and showers. Please be diligent in following proper protocols and put on your mask prior to opening your door. Surgical masks are available for daily replacement or when mask is wet or soiled.

Michelle and I have spent a considerable amount of time at the facility since going on outbreak status and we will continue to do so in an effort to keep you informed and supported. We appreciate your continued patience. We are working hard to ensure you have resources to address any emotional distress you may experience during this time. Please let me know if there are specific reading materials, writing or craft projects you would like and we will discuss acquiring those items

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for you.

Michelle and I want to thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this very difficult time. It is important to remain strong, to support one another, and be kind. Please do your part to stay healthy.