



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

February 11, 2022

TO: Brownstone Work/Training Release Staff and Residents

FROM: Colleen Pettit, Incident Commander *Colleen Pettit*

SUBJECT: Brownstone COVID-19 Weekly Update

On December 18, 2021, via regular Serial testing of the resident population, one (1) 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).

Since this initial outbreak, Brownstone was on track to be removed from outbreak status on January 6, 2022, with many days without any symptomatic residents or any positive tests, however, a resident developed symptoms on January 6, 2022 which were confirmed to be COVID-19. We placed the resident into medical isolation and there were several identified close contacts that were placed in quarantine.

On January 10, 2022, Rapid Antigen Testing was conducted on all staff and residents, and there were six (6) more positive cases identified. Four (4) of these residents were transported to an off-site Isolation facility. Two (2) of these cases were placed into medical isolation due to the time frames of their upcoming releases.

On January 14, 2022, all residents were Rapid Antigen Tested and there were eight (8) more positive cases identified. These residents were transported to an off-site Isolation facility. All close contacts were placed into medical quarantine.

On January 17, 2022, all residents were Rapid Antigen Tested, and another seven (7) positive cases were identified. These residents have been placed into medical isolation and all close contacts were placed into quarantine.

On January 20, 2022, all residents were Rapid Antigen Tested, and three (3) more positive cases were identified. These residents have been placed into medical isolation and all close contacts were placed into quarantine.

On January 24, 2022, a recently recovered case who contracted COVID-19 in December, had tested positive again via Rapid Antigen Testing. A confirmatory PCR test was taken, and results are still pending. The close contacts were placed into quarantine. Due to the recently identified positive case, the anticipated date for Brownstone to resolve the outbreak is dependent on confirmatory results as well as ensuring no other residents or staff test positive within the next ten (10) days.

On February 1, 2022, results from facility Rapid Antigen and PCR testing conducted on January 31, 2022, confirmed one (1) additional positive case. This individual has safely recovered, and at this time, we remain on outbreak status, pending the results of tests that were collected on February 9, 2022.

“Working Together for SAFER Communities”

The last batch of testing to resolve this outbreak will be conducted on Saturday, February 12, 2022. Results should post no later than Tuesday. With this in mind, we are hopeful to resolve our outbreak by next week. This is also dependent on ensuring all staff and residents remain without any symptoms. Staff and residents are screened each day. Extra sanitation and cleaning efforts have been implemented as well.

To date, there have been 21 positive residents in the last 30 days. This omicron variant of the virus is proving to be highly contagious.

Please continue with the quarantine protocols in place. Report any symptoms to staff immediately. Continue taking the most precaution in your living areas by following the guidelines with social distancing, masking, hand washing and sanitation. We have sanitation carts on each floor with extra PPE for your safety. Although not required, it's very encouraged for residents to schedule an appointment to obtain a vaccine in the community and to obtain booster shots if eligible.

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. Staff psychologist, Dr. Small is available for staff. Please reach out to him if you are experiencing any stress and need guidance.

For residents experiencing anxiety, depression or situational stress, all staff at Brownstone are here to help guide you and we are always listening. Additionally, it's advised to contact 211, your Physician or Frontier Behavioral Health for additional Mental Health resources. Anyone needing more acute care, please reach out to a staff member you are comfortable talking to and we can help direct you to the care you need. If you are experiencing a crisis, please call the Regional Crisis Line at 1-877-266-1818.

I am always available to field your concerns. We must take care of each other, staff and residents alike. I ask that we continue working together. This event truly depends on every single employee and resident to follow the quarantine protocols, identify problems so we can solve them in a swift manner and ensure we report any symptoms as soon as they are noticed. I need to ensure the continuation of a safe operations at Brownstone for everyone.

It is imperative to make sure you continue to wear your appropriate [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#), as well as social distancing at all times.

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.