



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

Laura Deckard

February 18, 2022

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

Progress House Work/Training Release (PHWTR) is continuing its placement on Facility Wide Outbreak quarantine status while waiting for COVID-19 PCR test results from the lab and per the outbreak status protocols in the [WA State DOC COVID-19 Screening, Testing and Infection Control Guideline](#) and [Work/Training Release COVID-19 Outbreak Checklist](#). COVID-19 positive residents have been temporarily relocated to a medical isolation facility.

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/intakes.

It is imperative that you wear your appropriate [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#), as well as practice 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 [Omicron Coronavirus Variant memo](#) regarding required 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 experience 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.