




STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
WASHINGTON CORRECTIONS CENTER FOR WOMEN
MS: WP-04 • 9601 Bujacich Road N.W. • Gig Harbor, Washington 98332-8300

April 7, 2022

TO: All Staff
All Incarcerated Individuals
Washington Corrections Center for Women

FROM: Charlotte Headley, Superintendent 
Gerald Holter, Co-Incident Commander
Casey Carlson, Co-Incident Commander
Washington Corrections Center for Women

SUBJECT: Update - WCCW COVID-19 Limited Area Outbreak

On April 7, 2022, the Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW) confirmed that two (2) incarcerated individuals from the close custody unit (CCU) have tested positive for COVID-19. They have been escorted to segregation. The [WA State DOC COVID-19 Screening, Testing, and Infection Control Guidelines](#) provides the protocol or managing COVID-19 outbreaks in DOC facilities. Per these guidelines, an:

- Outbreak is defined as a group of confirmed cases of COVID-19 that includes at least one incarcerated individual.
 - **Limited Area Outbreak:**
 - Two or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in incarcerated individuals occurring within 14 days who reside in the same living area OR
 - One or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in an incarcerated individual AND one or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in staff or volunteers working in proximity to the incarcerated individual case/cases occurring within 14 days.

In a consultation with Headquarters Clinical Leadership and Prisons Operations Leadership, the determination was made that WCCW Close Custody Unit is the only affected area experiencing a Limited Area Outbreak. While the Close Custody Unit West Pod will remain quarantined and unable to participate in visitation, the rest of the facility will continue normal operations. When testing results are received, a status update will be provided with further details.

Effective immediately, all staff assigned to CCU will be required to rapid test daily prior to showing up to the unit. This will include the CCU Correctional Counselors, Sergeant and officers. These steps are means to minimize the short and long-term impact that our response will have on our population. Donning/Doffing stations are available, and staff are required to use your appropriate [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\)](#), as well as social distancing always. Please encourage and model the same behavior that we expect from our

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WCCW Limited Area Outbreak
April 7, 2022

incarcerated population.

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. Staff must remain diligent in always wearing your masks, as your safety, as well as your family's, are a priority.

Please remember that wearing your mask, washing your hands frequently, and practicing social distancing wherever possible will go a long way to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. We will continue to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Washington State Department of Health guidelines, and make your health and safety are our priority. We encourage you to have patience and grace within your community and with staff.

I ask each one of you to be committed to following these standards so we can move past these restrictions as quickly as possible. By working together, I know that we can get past this challenging time and get to a place where we can all have some relief from the restrictions that this pandemic has brought upon us all.

Corrections is committed to everyone's safety. We will continue to communicate with you as we progress through this pandemic.

CKH:mrj

cc: Jeannie Darneille Assistant Secretary – Women's Prison Division
Jo Wofford Gender Responsive Administrator
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WCCW Incident Command
HQ Joint Information Center
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