

# Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

## Call Details

**Facility:** AHCC

**Date and Time:** 6/24/2020, 2:00PM

## Attendees

- James Key, Superintendent
- Caitlin Robertson, OCO
- Jess Robb, Facility Secretary
- Teresa Golden, LFC Member
- Christina Current, LFC Member
- Kehaulani Walker, LFC Member
- Ashley Werth, LFC Member
- Ellen Hargrove, LFC Member
- Stella Spracklin, OCO
- Donna Jaramillo, Family Secretary
- Beth Ann Daigre, LFC Member
- Yoshi Garcia, LFC Member
- Rachel Bisbee, LFC Member
- Stephanie Colunga, LFC Member
- Julianne Presson, LFC Member

## Weekly Update from Superintendent Key

- We are sorry for last week's teleconference. There were technical difficulties beyond our control that caused a state wide network outage.
- Staff and Incarcerated tone remains steady. They are tired but getting through it. Incarcerated individuals still have concerns about CRCC individuals being transferred into the Regional Care Facility (RCF) and are anxious for visiting to open back up.
- We are still watching the population levels in the MSU. Last week we moved individuals out of the EFV's and back into the units and are able to continue social distancing.
- We currently have 18 COVID-19 positive patients housed in the RCF, 4 in the IPU, and 5 on hospital watch for a total of 27 individuals. AHCC has 2 on isolation and 1 on quarantine.
- The MAIN institution had 4 COVID related grievances. Two were in regards to the location of the RCF and two on extra precautions being used in K unit to protect incarcerates. The MSU had 2 grievances. They were about not being able to work due to COVID-19.
- Senate Bill 6764 went into effect June 11<sup>th</sup>. The bill talks about the extension of immediate family to aunts, uncles, and immediate family adopted as a child or an adult. It also states the Indigent level went from \$10 to \$25 dollars and it increases access to commissary to at least 26 times a year or once every 2 weeks.
- Senate Bill 6164 gives the prosecutor the ability to go back to the court and resentence an individual. This is all done with outside parties. There is no role that DOC plays in this bill. It's all done through the prosecutor's office in the county of conviction.

## Pre-Submitted Questions

### Question

Is the institution willing to explore a process whereby the inmates in K-Unit can access the big yard at least once per week?

Answer

HQ states this is a protected population and we cannot do this yet. The incarcerated individuals in K unit are still getting time out front of the unit on fresh air pad.

## Additional Questions

Question

Is there a possibility that the inmates in K unit that are not elderly or have any type of disease can get moved into a regular unit so they can work and get regular activities back?

Answer

The only individuals allowed in this unit are those who have been screened by medical and HQ. We are not moving anyone out due to cross contamination and the vulnerability of this population.

Question

CRCC is now allowing staff to be tested once a week, is this a possibility that we could get staff at AHCC tested?

Answer

This is a decision by HQ. We have the same incoming screening criteria that we've had from day one. Everyone must wear a mask and have temperature taken.

Question

I just want to say thank you for the partitions between the phones. This has been a huge plus.

Answer

Thank you for the positive feedback.

Question

There has not been any hot water in the C tier in C4 since yesterday afternoon?

Answer

We will be happy to look into this.

**\*A work order was submitted on 6/25/20 to get this repaired.**

Question

If an individual reappears for 6164, they have to go before the judge. With COVID-19 do you have a set up for video calls for court or do they have to be transferred?

Answer

We have had no requests from the court regarding this. Anytime we get a request from the court we follow procedure. We do have some Zoom capability at this facility, but this would have to come as a court request.

Question

K unit is not allowed to go to the yard because it would restrict the ability of other units to go to the yard, is that correct?

Answer

No that is incorrect. We have sent this request to HQ multiple times, HQ will only allow them to be outside the front of the unit due to the vulnerable population. This decision comes from the doctors at HQ.

Question

What is the reason a healthy person could not be transferred out of K unit?

Answer

We do have a number of healthy individuals in K unit who are wheelchair pushers, porters, etc. to help those in the unit who need it. Currently we are under the HQ direction not to transfer anyone out of that unit.

Question

Since you are the Superintendent of AHCC, would you test your staff?

Answer

This is not my decision. I do not have the same information that HQ or the doctors have.

Question

For those that are unable to work due to COVID, could we look at extending their 7 years of on job?

Answer

I am familiar with the policy that states you can only be in a CI job for 7 years. This has not come up yet, but I am sure that will be taken into consideration. There is an appeal process they can go through to stay an extra year as well.

Question

Is there a weekly Superintendent call that all prisons speak with HQ?

Answer

There are 3 calls weekly where all Superintendents speak with HQ and discuss what is happening at all facilities.

Question

Do you keep track of new staff who do very excessive infractions?

Answer

If you have a specific issue I would encourage you to send it to the institution. I can tell you that infractions overall are currently down. Staff have done a good job at handling issues at the lowest level.

Question

Why is AHCC not allowed to transfer others in between the units?

Answer

We are still doing transfers within the institution.

Question

As far as infractions, what are the consequences of not having your locker locked in the MSU?

Answer

There are minor and major infractions based on Washington code. Minor infractions are addressed by the Sergeant in the unit. Major infraction are done by a hearings officer for the whole facility.

Question

Have there been any positive COVID-19 cases of an AHCC individual?

#### Answer

We have 18 positive cases in the regional care facility, the IPU has 4, and we have 5 incarcerated individuals on hospital watch. The number has not changed for AHCC, we currently have no positive cases from an Airway Heights incarcerated individual.

#### Question

What is an emergency grievance?

#### Answer

The policy lists what qualifies as an emergency grievance. You can find this on the DOC website.

### Comments/Closing

Please continue to follow the process to request individuals to be a part of this call. It is working well. I understand staff and individuals are tired. I know as of Friday the governor stated the whole state will be required to wear masks. I know this might look like a step backwards, but we in the prisons will continue to do this. We are still walking the site and having tier reps meetings. These have been very productive and the feedback from the tier reps has been helpful. Please get your questions to us by noon next Tuesday. Thank you and have a good week.