

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: AHCC

Date and Time: 07/01/2020, 2:00PM

Attendees

- James Key, Superintendent
- Caitlin Robertson, OCO
- Jess Robb, Facility Secretary
- Paige Perkinson, HQ
- Christina Current, LFC Member
- Kehaulani Walker, LFC Member
- Julianne Presson, LFC Member
- Ellen Hargrove, LFC Member
- Stella Spracklin, OCO
- Anita Barker, Family Co-Chair
- Donna Jaramillo, Family Secretary
- Beth Ann Daigre, LFC Member
- Yoshi Garcia, LFC Member
- Rachel Bisbee, LFC Member
- Stephanie Colunga, LFC Member
- Virginia Chapman, LFC Member

Weekly Update from Superintendent Key

- We are on the 121st day of COVID-19. We have 14 incarcerated individuals in the Regional Care Facility (RCF), 6 in the Infirmary, and 2 on hospital watch for a total of 22 COVID=19 positive individuals.
- HQ has received 25000 COVID-19 test kits to be distributed to facilities if needed.
- Since our last call we had 6 grievances in the main. These were related to gratuity, and having the RCF at AHCC. We had 0 grievances in the MSU.
- In regards to gratuity, there should be more information about a possible gratuity extension coming out later this week for those who have been displaced from their jobs based on COVID-19.
 - Update: Effective July 31, 2020, the Department will no longer be providing gratuity to incarcerated individuals who are unable to perform their job duties.
- We have incarcerated individuals being transferred around the state. We are sending information to staff and incarcerated. Anyone we are moving from CRCC must receive two negative COVID-19 tests before being transferred. We are abiding by all PPE and cleaning standards, when individuals arrive at a new institution they go through the screening process with medical as well.
- We have no information to currently move forward with the post isolation convalescent housing (PICH). This area is ready for use in case we need it.
- We still have C2 and C6 extra housing areas in the MSU, we have no incarcerates in the EFV's.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Question

As things are going back to "normal" and we start phasing in when will our loved ones be off day room restrictions? They must go without visits and other things that bring them joy and a sense of normalcy, so I feel like keeping them celled in majority of the day for over 100 days is a little much at this point. Being let out for 45 min 5 to 6 times if they're lucky a day is a bit much. Mentally I know a lot are ready to call it quits and I do not blame them. Other facilities aren't this restricted so is there a reason why airway heights is?

Answer

We are still currently doing 45 min out and 15 min of cleaning. This plan is in place to keep everything clean and avoid the spread of COVID-19. Other institutions are doing this and we are trying to be consistent state wide. Based on walking around and talking with our quality assurance group this process is running well. Until we get further direction or there is a phase down this will not change.

Question

I found in the notes for the SFC that the tier rep notes will be available and provided to LFC Members.

Answer

Tier Rep information will not be available for this teleconference. The information from Geneva said we could share COVID-19 related information with LFC Co-chairs. We will start sharing COVID-19 information from tier rep meetings next week.

Question

There is a ceiling tile in the medical unit, next to a light fixture that is leaking water down, the tile is black.

Answer

The issue was a leaking ball valve above the hard deck ceiling. No mold was found, but wet ceiling tile/drywall and a mixture of HVAC vent dust along with dripping water made this area look like mold. All materials have been removed and a repair is being affected.

Additional Questions

Question

My husband ordered an embroidery kit, and he still has not received it. Is there someone specific who can address this?

Answer

Please contact the institution for this request.

Question

MSU is having count right before the hour out in the yard and this takes away yard time. Can something be done about this?

Answer

Policy states we must have informal counts, this does not matter where individuals may be in the institution. These are done at different times during the day. There may have been some yard time lost due to the informal count.

Question

Who is in the quality control group?

Answer

We have 4 people that are corrections specialist and managers. They walk the institution and ensure AHCC is following all CDC guidelines.

Question

Do you have any follow-up information on COVID-19 effecting the 7 year work limitation in CI?

Answer

I sent an email to the general manager and have not heard back. Any extension must be approved by me and I have not seen any of those requests come through yet. I will get an update for next week.

Question

How many COVID-19 positive individuals have come from AHCC?

Answer

The number has not changed, 0.

Question

Can you clarify the memo that came out on the transfers? The incarcerated individuals that are coming from CRCC are in quarantine for 14 days before they are transferred?

Answer

They must be tested twice before they transfer and have it be negative before they can be transferred.

Update: An individual must have double negative test results to be able to transfer. The second test is ran between 48 hours and 7 days after the first one. They are quarantined for 14 days before being transferred.

Question

Are the individuals who came from coyote ridge under isolation?

Answer

No they are in general population. They are not on isolation or quarantine.

Question

I know that we added times for video visits. If they are doing count 10 min before a video visit starts are they allowed to still participate in the video visit on time?

Answer

These times are not scheduled around count times.

Question

Who supervises the porters and makes sure they use and mix the chemicals correctly in the units?

Answer

In the living units its custody. Also, our safety officer goes out and checks the mix ratio of the chemicals in each unit to ensure it is mixed correctly.

Question

K unit was trying to get some outside time, can you give us an update?

Answer

They will have access to outside yard during the MAIN facility mainline times, approximately starting at 12:00 and ending at 12:45, Monday through Friday not including holidays. They cannot use the equipment but they can use the track. This process started June 29th.

Question

Did you say that the shedding area is not being used yet? And if it is not, where are the individuals going for the shedding process?

Answer

Based on our numbers staying around 20, they are still able to use the RCF for a post convalescent area. The post isolation convalescent housing (PICH) is ready to use at a moment's notice if HQ asks.

Question

Can you explain why the 6 in the infirmary are not in the RCF?

Answer

We have 6 negative pressure rooms in our infirmary. Based on medical and our doctor's decision, if we have someone who is showing more symptoms and the doctors would like to watch them closer, we place them in medical. It depends on the severity of the sickness.

Question

Who is in charge of making sure that your network is working correctly?

Answer

We have our own local IT department. Our network comes out of HQ, but we have local IT technicians.

Question

How many Airway Heights individuals have been tested for COVID-19?

Answer

I will get this total for next week. The only ones we have tested are individuals who have been symptomatic.

Update: 13 individuals at AHCC have been tested for COVID-19, all have been returned with negative results.

Question

Is the RCF ran by the National Guard?

Answer

No they are not. They are staffed with DOC staff.

Question

When we had discussed the RCF in a previous teleconference it said they were going to be temporary in tents?

Answer

Originally this was discussed. We had some engineers come in and give us their advice on where to put the RCF. They decided where the RCF is placed now was the best option.

Question

Are the core engineers employed by DOC?

Answer

No they are a separate entity.

Question

Are you at all concerned with the 171 testing positive at CRCC that the individuals being transferred are going to become positive within the next week that they are at AHCC?

Answer

As of this morning I was told CRCC has 60 positive cases, which is less than 3.3% of the population. This is always a concern, however I am confident with AHCC staff and CRCC staff following the CDC guidelines they will continue to keep us safe.

Question

When you are referring to the 60 positive does that refer to the mass testing CRCC has just done?

Answer

The 171 is the totality number since COVID-19 started, the 60 is how many positive tests they had when they tested the entire institution.

Question

What is the purpose of the double negative tests when many individuals tested the test are within 12 hours of each other?

Answer

This is not the case. You do one test, and then you have to wait so many days per the CDC guidelines that you are allowed to test again. *look up the info in the CDC website.

Comments/Closing

We will get notes out regarding this call next Monday (7/6/20), please get your questions in by Tuesday (7/7/20) at noon. I will get more information in regards to the K unit yard for next week. Stay safe and have a good rest of the week.