

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: AHCC

Date and Time: 08/26/2020, 2:00PM

Attendees

- Kay Heinrich, Associate Superintendent
- Caitlin Robertson, OCO
- Jess Robb, Secretary
- Gheroge Turcin, Family Services
- Anita Barker, Co-Chair
- Kehaulani Walker, LFC Member
- Beth Ann Daigre, LFC Member
- Christina Current, LFC Member
- April Chavez, LFC Member
- Ellen Hargrove, LFC Member
- Teresa Golden, LFC Member
- James Key, Superintendent
- Stella Spracklin, OCO
- Paige Perkinson, HQ
- Ann Wise, CPPC
- Donna Jaramillo, Family Secretary
- Breanna Johnson, LFC Member
- Julianne Presson, LFC Member
- Bill Hargrove, LFC Member
- Rachel Bisbee, LFC Member
- Yoshi Garcia, LFC Member
- Holly Wessels, LFC Member

Weekly Update from Superintendent James Key

- Our focus in ICP is getting ready for staff testing. Starting Monday 8/31/2020, we will have a group come in and start training staff on the testing process and procedures.
- We are working with our task force for mandatory programming in regards to CD and SOTP that effects release. We would like to cohort these groups and keep with CDC guidelines.
- Last week we had a quality assurance team come in. They check if we are following protocols and PPE guidelines. Over all it was good; we had a couple corrective action areas that we have already implemented plans for.
- The tone remains the same, some frustration in units which is expected. Dr. Heinrich is meeting with the tier reps each week. I would say the tone is even.
- AHCC has 7 incarcerated individuals in the Regional Care Facility (RCF), 2 in the Inpatient Unit (IPU), 9 on intake separation CCJ (community custody jurisdiction) violators and individuals who get sent back to the institution, and 6 in quarantine.
- Since our last teleconference we had 8 grievances in the main. These grievances were in regards to the dentist not scheduling appointments, playing cards, pre-paid EFV visits, visiting cancelled, pay not being received, and no haircuts in SMU. We had zero COVID-19 related grievances in the MSU.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Question

Several weeks ago, Mr. Key told us that none of the transport staff at AH have tested positive for COVID-19. According to procedure, if that had occurred, tracing and quarantining would have taken place. However, several of the inmates in K Unit are reluctant to be transported to necessary medical appointments in Spokane because word is going around the unit that one of the CO's has told the inmates that one of the transport staff did test positive for COVID-19. Mr. Key, would you please reassure the population that this information is false. A statement from you on this issue carries a lot of weight and would end this speculation.

Answer

I am not aware of any transport staff who tested positive for COVID. During these 180 days we have had transport staff who have screened out. If they do screen out, they go through a mapping process of any staff or

I/I they may have been around. Any incarcerated taken on a medical appointment transport would have isolated and put on quarantine following procedures. I was speaking to the K unit I/I last Thursday and fielded some questions, this was not one of them. I will not put something out to the population, I will send something out to the staff in K unit to speak to this rumor. I will speak to medical about this, but I have not heard of anyone who has refused a transport to the community, nor anyone refusing a callout.

Additional Questions

Question

Yoshi Garcia: I sent an email to the family members. I am part of the state council group that will discuss plans for opening up when it does open up. If family members have any concerns for visiting, please send me, Anita or Donna an email with concerns you'd like me to take forward.

Answer

A group in HQ is working on Safe Start. Visiting is one of the things they are looking at. It is important to get these concerns in to Yoshi so she can bring them up to the SFC.

Question

Do you know when sweat lodge might be allowed again? Also religious ceremonies or change of seasons?

Answer

Currently we are not allowing this to take place. We have some requests to rebuild the sweat lodges. Ms. Garcia might have some more information after SFC. HQ will hopefully have something in the safe start plan during the SFC regarding this.

Question

Back in July, I had asked about the CI 7-year job hold. The answer from CI was that the COVID time would not count towards the 7 years. Quite a few people have had their names removed off the callout. Does that mean they can no longer go back to that job?

Answer

If you go back in your notes, we addressed this a couple times. From CI, the time for 7 years is not based on COVID times. All a call out is, is permission for an incarcerated to move from one area to another during a certain time frame. If someone is not able to go to their job, we just remove their name from that callout for the time being. Jobs is tracking these times.

Question

Do you have more information on how you will implement mandated programming?

Answer

We have a task force working on this. We are looking at a few factors. It has to be the same unit participating. We have to look at the numbers, social distancing, and looking at those who have a shorter time sentences that have to get this done. We have SOTP and operational staff looking at this. I am not sure when this will be implemented. It has to be done right and within the COVID guidelines.

Comment

There is a legislative change that is occurring in regards to the naming of a victim of a crime. There will be an email sent out in regards to this.

Question

I am looking at a screenshot of a meal that is not close to a representative of what inmates get to eat. Why are they showing pictures that do not represent what they are delivering? It's a picture Suzanne Cook posted, she put a link to the DOC website.

<https://www.doc.wa.gov/corrections/programs/correctional-industries.htm>

Answer

James Key: Based on everything going on I am not sure that came from a DOC website. There are many groups on the outside posting many different things. Without seeing it in person I am not sure where this is coming from. I would go directly to Miss Cook and ask where that is coming from.

Kay Heinrich: Every week when we meet with the tier reps, we have someone from CI for both the MAIN and the MSU. Whenever there is a question or concern, they share that with CI kitchen. They also have a weekly form they fill out with food suggestions and comments. When I/I complain about certain foods or meals, the kitchen always listens to feedback and tries to adjust meals accordingly. These concerns are also on the minutes and posted to the units each week.

Question

Problems with the WIFI over the last 2 weeks in the camp, any word on this?

Answer

We have not heard anything about the WIFI. We will look into this.

Question

Have you seen the new CDC guideline checkoff list?

Answer

We have new guidelines from HQ and for PPE that came out last week, I have not specifically seen any list but I am sure it included these criteria.

Comments/Closing

On Monday I was in and out of the LFC meeting. Anita and Donna did a great job addressing subjects and getting answers. You followed policy guidelines and thank you for your work. Have your questions in by 12 on Tuesday and we will speak to you next Wednesday. Thank you for your time.