

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: AHCC

Date and Time: 2/24/2021, 2:00PM

Attendees

- Kay Heinrich, Associate Superintendent
- Paige Perkinson, HQ
- Jess Robb, Family Secretary
- Ellen Hargrove, Family Secretary
- Juanita Rodriguez, LFC member
- Kehaulani Walker, LFC Member
- Donna Jaramillo, LFC Member
- Christina Current, LFC Member
- April Chavis, LFC Member
- Bryenna Johnson, LFC Member
- Teresa Golden, LFC Member
- James Key, Superintendent
- Stella Spracklin, OCO
- Justin Gudvangen, RN4
- Gheorghe Turcin, Family Services
- Yoshi Garcia, LFC Member
- Stephanie Colunga, LFC member
- Bill Hargrove, LFC Member
- Rachel Bisbee, SFC Representative
- Julie Burden, LFC Member
- BethAnn Daigre, LFC Member
- Julianne Presson, LFC Member

If you would like your friend/family member/loved one to be a part of the Local Family Council, please have them write to Jess Robb at the following email address:

Jessica.robbs@doc1.wa.gov

Jess Robb, Facility Secretary
Airway Heights Corrections Center
PO Box 1899
Airway Heights, WA 99001

To be part of the Local Family Council, one must be on the Incarcerated Individual's approved visitation list, and "any approved visitor in good standing may attend" (policy 530.155). If one is not on the inmate's visitation list and wishes to fill out an application to become a visitor please, go to the following website:

<https://www.doc.wa.gov/corrections/incarceration/visiting/prison-visits.htm>

- Questions need to be submitted to Ms. Robb by noon on Tuesday before the meeting. Please keep your questions, pre-submitted and during the call, to COVID-19 related topics.
- Please keep each question concrete and specific via bullet statements.

Weekly Update from Superintendent Key

- Numbers as of 1PM per the website:
 - AHCC new positive cases in the last 30 days – 9
 - AHCC I/I Confirmed cases – 1671
 - AHCC Staff Confirmed cases – 209
 - AHCC I/I deaths – 5
 - AHCC I/I in the RCF – 0
- Monday around 4:30 we received approval to go off outbreak break status and lift restricted movement. This week our main focus is vaccines for the I/I. Our work groups for programs have been having discussions on how to re-implement programming using a cohorted schedule by units.
- Vaccines are trickling in. We are waiting for DOH to get to us. We should hopefully have more in tomorrow (2/25/21).

- Although we are coming off restricted movement, we still have to follow guidelines and protocols: mask wearing, 6 ft. social distancing, and cleaning. We are not letting everyone out into the dayroom. We are still doing cohort for dayroom schedules.
- We had seven COVID related grievances in the MAIN regarding management of the outbreak and staff bringing COVID into the institution to the population. There were two COVID related grievances in the MSU regarding staff social distancing and the business office and EIP cards.
- JPay was on site on 2/18. They fixed a camera angle and a broken handset.
- The tone of the institution is pretty decent. We have groups working on cohorting programming. We need to have a phased approach to the cohorting programming. Speaking to the population, they are appreciating yard time and grab and go meals.

Update from Associate Superintendent Heinrich

- We have an LFC Meeting this Saturday from 9-11. We have sent out the meeting minutes and agenda and will be participating via Microsoft Teams.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Question

Would the facility consider allowing an I/I to wear a surgical mask and then a cloth mask over it as the CDC recommends?

Answer

Our protocols call just for the surgical mask for everyone. There are discussions going on at HQ about the double masking. Right now there has not been a decision made.

Question

As vaccines become available to incarcerated gentlemen, will counselors or medical staff make sure to explain all the ins-and-outs of it all to those that have learning disabilities or mental health issues that limit understanding?

Answer

We did do some vaccines in K unit. They are being individually sent the information that includes CDC information, Moderna information, and local instructions from the facility medical director. We sent this information ahead of time. During the vaccine clinic we have a provider who meets one-on-one with the I/I and explains the information to them.

Question

What sort of in-depth information or education are the incarcerated individuals receiving related to the COVID-19 vaccine outside of memos being posted?

Answer

They are provided individual education and counseling before they receive the vaccine.

Question

When Main is off restricted movement, will they still have the upper/lower tier schedule, or will dayroom access be open to all in that unit side?

Answer

We still have protocols in place for only having so many individuals in the dayroom for social distancing and mask wearing. It will continue to be a cohort schedule.

Additional Questions

Question

Do you know what vaccine the incarcerated will receive?

Answer

It is the Moderna vaccine.

Question

My husband in KA reported no one on that side was vaccinated yesterday.

Answer

There were some vaccinations done in K unit. I'm not sure where they were. We are still waiting on some vaccinations to come in.

Question

How many people were vaccinated yesterday?

Answer

I do not have those numbers. These are discussed with the EOC and they will publicly display those on the website once they have that information.

Question

It has been said that there possibly are some COs that are stating the vaccine will be forced and if I/I don't take the vaccine they will not be able to participate in visiting, programming, education etc.

Answer

We have put out many memos to staff and I/I stating it is voluntary whether or not to receive the vaccine. It is truly optional.

Question

Would getting the vaccine have anything to do with an individual being able to go to visitation?

Answer

I have not heard anything about this. Visitation is with the Safe Start group at HQ.

Question

Have you spoken anymore with Mr. Sinclair?

Answer

I have had email correspondence with him.

Comments/Closing

I plan to get back out on Thursday for tone. Folks are anxious to get back to a new normal. We have to continue with the protocols with masks and social distancing. I've seen better compliance than before. This is a positive step forward. Please get questions into Ms. Robb by Tuesday at 12:00 for next Wednesday's call. We are pushing forward and hope to have positive news next Wednesday. Thank you.