

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: AHCC

Date and Time: 3/10/2021, 2:00PM

Attendees

- Kay Heinrich, Associate Superintendent
- Paige Perkinson, HQ
- Jess Robb, Family Secretary
- Ellen Hargrove, Family Secretary
- Valerie Smith, LFC member
- Kehaulani Walker, LFC Member
- Donna Jaramillo, LFC Member
- Beth Ann Daigre, LFC Member
- April Chavis, LFC Member
- James Key, Superintendent
- Stella Spracklin, OCO
- Caitlin Roberston, OCO
- Gheorghe Turcin, Family Services
- Yoshi Garcia, LFC Member
- Julianne Presson, LFC Member
- Bill Hargrove, LFC Member
- Rachel Bisbee, SFC Representative
- Julie Burden, 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

or

**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 the 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 – 0
 - AHCC I/I Confirmed cases – 1671
 - AHCC Staff Confirmed cases – 215
 - AHCC I/I deaths – 5
 - AHCC I/I in the RCF – 0
- We had three COVID related grievances from the MSU regarding masks in the yard and one on cohorting with work. We had five COVID related grievances in the MAIN regarding sports in the yard, medical for vaccines, and law library.
- JPay has been on-site the last two weeks visually inspecting phones, terminals, and keyboards throughout the institution. One kiosk was offline and was fixed. One had a frozen screen that was corrected.
- Last week we focused on vaccines for I/I under Phase 1. Criteria for Phase 1 is identified on the website.

- Another thing we are focusing on is looking at cohorting schedules so we can begin programming. We are hoping to implement programming next week. CD, SOTP, and court mandated programming before release are the first priorities. We will also be working on beginning medical callouts with cohorts. We are working on the 24-hour movement schedule and hoping to finalize this by the end of the week. This will be sent to out the LFC members.
- I was able to walk through the institution. I/I are getting back to their custody levels and original units. Individuals getting yard time has been a big deal. The I/I tone is pretty good. There were lots of questions on programming and cohorting. Last week our audit team was here. The brief out I received was positive. Staff tone has been decent.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Question

Will the I/I in K Unit who were not allowed to go to work because of COVID get their jobs back now?

Answer

They should be back to work in K unit. We are moving forward with cohort schedules in CI. We are still working on the cohort schedules for textiles. We have barriers and reminders set up on the floor for 6 ft social distancing.

Question

What restrictions will be placed on those I/I who don't want to get the vaccine?

Answer

I am not aware of any restrictions that will be placed.

Question

Can CI workers refuse the vaccine and still keep their jobs?

Answer

I have not received any information saying that they will not be allowed a job if they do not get a vaccination.

Question

Will those that don't get the vaccine still be able to go to visit?

Answer

This is with Safe Start programming. We have not received any information saying if this will be a part of the criteria or not.

Question

Will there be separation/segregation with those that have the vaccine and those that don't?

Answer

We have not received any information regarding this.

Question

When will hot breakfasts start being served?

Answer

I have reached out to CI. We had a tentative date of March 28th, but this has been postponed. We are trying to abide by cohorts and movements. Their next tentative date will be 5/23/21. They feel confident they will be able to make this date.

Question

The clothing exchange has not been open since the pandemic started. Is there an ETA of when that will be back open for gentlemen to use? There are gentlemen reporting that many I/I need socks, shoes, etc. to replace items that are in very poor condition.

Answer

Property is not delivering to the units. We are looking at this through cohorting and callouts. We are hoping the 24-hour movement schedule will be finalized soon.

Question

Is there any idea when they will be able to bring the dogs back and resume the dog training program?

Answer

No. This is probably further down on the start list. We are hoping, once we get back to a new normal, we will be able to bring this back.

Additional Questions

Question

Why aren't the guys allowed to walk in the dayroom?

Answer

This has been previously discussed. We are still doing cohort in the units. The I/I were walking too close together and social distancing could not be maintained. Everyone is getting yard and gym and they can exercise there.

Question

What are the minimum qualifications to receive the COVID vaccine? Is this available to everyone?

Answer

No. I would go to the DOC website. There is information on the different phases. This information has also been distributed to the population.

Question

Could K unit get a new ice machine using COVID funds? Their ice machine has limited ice and no fresh water spigot.

Answer

I am not aware of the issues in K unit regarding the ice machines. We can take a look at them and see if they need to be replaced.

- **Update from CUS: These were worked on a few weeks ago and there have been no complaints since.**

Question

Is someone from HQ on the line? I was wondering if you know when the website will reflect I/I and staff vaccines separately?

Answer

P. Perkinson: I do not have a date. I can ask about this.

- **Update: HQ is still working on this.**

Question

Will basketball at the camp be an option soon?

Answer

There has not been approval for contact recreation activities. We have the yard open for individual use for pull-ups, sit-ups and walking the track.

Question

You mentioned property not being delivered to the units?

Answer

Individual property exchange is not being delivered to the units. But we are looking at doing this via callout with the cohorting schedule.

Question

Is in-person visitation a priority?

Answer

This is with the Safe Start group with HQ. I know they are working on many options.

Question

With JPay being on site so often, is there a way they can look at the handset in KB? I can hardly hear my loved one on that handset.

Answer

We will send this to the JPay liaison and have her add it to the technician's list.

- **Update: A help ticket has been put in by the JPay liaison.**

Question

You mentioned that the CI jobs have gone back to work minus textiles. There a few guys who have gone back to work in CI, but due to cohort they are not back to the same job title. Do they still their level 4 pay?

Answer

CI is getting I/I back to work. I'm not sure what pay scale they are at. CI is its own department. Those I/I should contact their supervisor in CI and ask them.

Question

Who determines what group gets the vaccinations?

Answer

The clinical folks at HQ work with DOH on the phases and the criteria for this. Medical is not here today to assist in answering medical issues and concerns.

Question

At the State Family Council COVID call, I asked multiple questions on who was receiving the vaccine. When the notes come back from that call, I can forward the information to Jess and she can send it out to the LFC members.

Answer

Perfect. We will do that.

Comments/Closing

We will have the call again in two weeks (3/24/21). We are moving forward and we'll have more information on programming in a memo by next week. We have to phase-in programming with enough time for I/I to understand the process and for staff to implement it accurately. Have a good couple of weeks. Stay safe and get questions in to Jess by Tuesday before the call.