

# Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

## Call Details

**Facility:** AHCC

**Date and Time:** 5/19/2021, 2:00PM

## Attendees

- Paige Perkinson, HQ
- Jess Robb, Facility Secretary
- Ellen Hargrove, LFC Family Co-Chair
- Kari Carlisle, LFC Member
- Hattie Wolf, LFC Member
- Michelle Mason, LFC Member
- Teresa Golden, LFC Member
- Julianne Presson, LFC Member
- Bill Hargrove, LFC Member
- April Chavis, LFC Member
- James Key, Superintendent
- Justin Gudvangen, RN4
- Rachel Bisbee, SFC Representative
- Christina Current, LFC Member
- Donna Jaramillo, LFC Member
- Julie Burden, LFC Member
- Kehaulani Walker, LFC Member
- Juanita Rodriguez, LFC Member
- Beth Ann Daigre, 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](mailto: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 1:00 PM **per the website:**
  - AHCC new positive cases in the last 30 days – 4
  - AHCC I/I Confirmed cases – 1675
  - AHCC Staff Confirmed cases – 228
  - AHCC I/I deaths – 5
  - AHCC I/I in the RCF – 0
- As of today, T-Unit A side is off quarantine and B side is still on quarantine with the second round testing taking place this week. We are hoping to get the tests back at the latest on Saturday.
  - **Update: T-Unit B-Side was taken off quarantine 5-22-21.**
- Weight decks will be opening May 27<sup>th</sup> with a cohort schedule. These were both turned into alternative housing and needed some repairing before we could open them up. We put new flooring in the MAIN and in the MSU weight decks.

- The second round of COVID vaccinations are occurring this week.
- I was on-site Saturday to observe visiting. The numbers for visiting have been low, but the process has been going well.
- We have been working hard regarding JPay. I understand the time was off on the JPay kiosk in K unit. We will continue to work on this issue and forward all issues to JPay.

## Pre-Submitted Questions

### Question

Has anything been done to make it easier for I/I and visitors to hear each other during visits?

### Answer

We will continue to look at this on the local level, and these issues are been shared with visiting at HQ.

### Question

I heard there was a glitch in the visiting scheduling program that caused someone to be denied visiting. Has that glitch been fixed?

### Answer

Yes, it has.

### Question

Why is N unit still being closed hourly for cleaning?

### Answer

We met on Thursday after the last COVID teleconference after T unit went on quarantine. It was decided that all units were going to go ahead to the 45 min out and 15 min of cleaning every hour. This is a mitigation and safeguard with having a unit on quarantine.

### Question

When is the second shot for inmates due in N unit?

### Answer

We have some clinics scheduled for this week and next week, so this is dependent on the individual.

## Additional Questions

### Question

Now that you are starting to open other parts of the facility, will you be increasing the visit times?

### Answer

Those times come from HQ with Safe Start visitation. Things are opening, but it is with reduced numbers and cohort schedules.

### Question

Aren't they supposed to be changing visitation as the state moves into the next phases?

### Answer

There have been conversations regarding this. This will be based on HQ Safe Start and we are not sure when it will move forward inside the facilities.

### Question

How many people were denied early release by ISRB because of the inability to complete programming? Could you investigate and report back?

### Answer

I do not have those numbers. The board is a totally separate entity from the institution. That may be a public disclosure request regarding that information.

### Question

Have transfers from unit to unit stopped? This is causing delays in my scheduled visits. I cannot schedule a visit if I don't know where my loved one is moving to.

### Answer

I have sent requests to the CPMs to look at visiting before making transfers. We have to continue to operate the institution based on custody levels. We are working hard to not do transfers before individuals get their first visit. However, we cannot do that for every person for every visit.

- LFC Member: I understand that, but my next visit is in June. So, what unit do I schedule the visit for?
- Ms. Robb: You can still schedule the visit for their current unit. If he moves, the schedulers will be notified to cancel the visit. Speak with your loved one so they can notify you immediately and you can reschedule with their correct co-hort. We are moving through visiting emails a bit quicker now.

### Question

In the last meeting notes it stated evening yard was slated to open yesterday. Was it able to open?

### Answer

We will have to check with shift to make sure that happened.

- **Update: Evening yard did occur Tuesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, the 19<sup>th</sup>.**

### Question

I emailed you regarding strip searches and I am concerned about this as not all institutions are doing this.

### Answer

I emailed you back this morning with my response. Visiting started on May 9. I have not looked at the MAIN and MSU logs to see if strip searches were done. Directions came from HQ regarding strip searches on the 11th or 12th. I have staff looking into this. But they are no longer happening if it did occur and visiting staff have been notified.

### Question

I am trying to understand the clothing protocol. When going for clothing exchange they are receiving used items. I'm not understanding if you are being funded for our loved ones to receive new clothing, why is that not being done at AHCC?

### Answer

This is not a COVID related question.

- LFC Member: How is this not a COVID question? It can be transferred through clothing.
- Supt. Key: This is not COVID related and can be submitted for the regular LFC meeting.
- Michelle mason feels this is COVID related as well.

### Question

Will you be renewing the voucher program with family services for loved ones to travel from the other side of the state for in person visits?

### Answer

This is an HQ question. I am not sure if there is funding for that or not.

### Question

Has T unit received their second COVID vaccine yet?

### Answer

Several individuals have. That goes for many individuals in the facility. We did a large clinic about three weeks ago. In this clinic, anyone who had not gotten it or hadn't refused it were put on callout to be in the unit so we could get verbal communication and ask if they had questions or if there was more information we could provide to them. We are anticipating the large group to get their second vaccines next week. If an individual refused previously and changed their mind, they could send a kite to medical and receive a vaccination.

### Question

With the second round of vaccinations, is medical more available to those getting the second round since more individuals have been shown to have symptoms from it?

### Answer

I wouldn't say more available, but we do overserve individuals for 15-30 minutes after their vaccination. We provide commissary Tylenol or Ibuprofen for the expected side effects while we are giving the vaccinations. We try to handle this on the front end to prevent them from having issues.

### Question

In the notes on March 10 we discussed clothing exchange. I am feeling very discriminated against since someone else can ask the question about clothing but now I cannot since it is not COVID related. If a white person asks a question and I am a woman of a color and I cannot ask the question.

### Answer

The information in the notes was the policy information. It wasn't about COVID it was about clothing. I am trying to keep these calls to COVID specific questions.

- LFC Member: If a white person asks a question that's okay but since I am a woman of a color and I cannot ask the question.
- Supt. Key: We have clothing exchange being done; they are being called out by cohort. If you would like to ask a question on the COVID related notes that is okay, but your question was not related to COVID.

### Question

It is a 3 - 4-week interval between shots. Nora unit, are they scheduled for this week or next?

### Answer

Optimal period is a 28-day window. It's a 2-3-week window after that period. Some are scheduled for this week and some for next week.

### Question

I heard that T unit goes to education with L unit. Did L unit get tested last week?

### Answer

The side off quarantine would be able to go to programming. If there are two units in an area, they are divided by dividers.

### Question

When can we start scheduling for a June visit?

### Answer

That is available now. You use the same website to schedule as you have for your previous visit. There is a drop down that you can choose dates from. The link sent to you was not specific for May.

Question

During visiting it was very difficult to hear my husband and I. What steps has the facility taken to remedy this?

Answer

We have received this concern. Locally we are looking at this and it has been reported to the HQ Safe Start group visiting as well.

Question

My loved one is being moved to K unit, but he doesn't want to move there. What are the criteria to being moved to K unit? I don't understand the purpose and is it due to COVID?

Answer

This is a classification question. Please contact your loved one's classification counselor regarding this.

Question

What are Mr. Gudvangen's medical qualifications?

Answer

I am the director of nursing for the site. I am an RN with a bachelor's in nursing. Prior to that I was an emergency medical tech for eight years.

Question

Will staff who have tested positive start testing again after 90 days? Who tracks that?

Answer

That is our mapping team. This mapping team is both at the local and HQ level.

Question

Could you please send an updated link to schedule visits?

Answer

It is on the DOC website, but we can send it out.

Question

Regarding visitation, if the CO is checking you in as a visitor and they are going behind the barriers to be with our loved ones, how does it make sense that the barriers have to be up?

Answer

The barrier is there for the visitors. The COs are around the population every day. This is for mitigation. Staff members are tested weekly, where a visitor may not be.

Question

Just for clarification, each of your employees are testing on a weekly basis?

Answer

Yes.

Question

On the weekly testing of staff, does that include those who have already tested positive?

Answer

Supt. Key: I do not have that specific criteria. Maybe Mr. Gudvangen could respond?

Mr. Gudvangen: Recently, it has been determined by the occupational health and wellness, staff members need to be tested again after they have tested positive after a certain amount of time if they have not received the vaccine.

Question

How do you know who to test if you don't have the criteria?

Answer

There is a direct message from the occupational nurse and the mapping group supervisor sent to the staff member that they need to begin testing.

Question

Where are the employees being tested at?

Answer

On-site.

Question

Is the testing with the long stick up your nose?

Answer

The testing process is swabbing the nose on each nostril for 10 seconds each.

Question

How long does it take to get back whether the tests are positive or negative?

Answer

It's usually within the same week. It varies on how impacted the labs are. If there are more cases in the community it can add to the back logs. It usually takes between 2-5 days.

Question

For understanding... Is there a log or software to know which staff has and hasn't been tested? Assuming you are correct on your answer of testing the employees each week.

Answer

There is a data base they use with this and it tracks each employee at the institution. If someone has not tested there is notification sent to find that individual.

Question

With it being warmer and things opening up what is the situation with the ice makers?

Answer

This was a concern based on the hydration of the population during COVID. We have ordered them and are hoping they arrive this week. We ordered eight new ice makers. Our plant manager is auditing how long each icemaker has been in use. Hopefully by the next call we can let you know where these have been replaced.

Question

Are KA and KB on the list to get a new ice machine since theirs were not replaced when everyone else's were?

Answer

Our plant manager is looking at this. He has all this information and we will designate by oldest replaced first.

Question

Can you tell me how ice machines are COVID related?

Answer

It was a concern based on the hydration of the I/I while ill with COVID.

- Supt. Key: The protocols regarding property are on the website if you would like more information on that.

Question

What is the name of the plant manager?

Answer

Jim Parker

Question

I was late attending, but is there anyone from HQ on the call?

Answer

Paige Perkinson is on the call.

Question

For I/I who refused or declined the vaccine, were they still given the opportunity to view the video that was sent to you by Washington state?

Answer

This video has been on a rotation playing on the TVs in the dayrooms as well their TVs in their cells.

Question

Count and movement don't have any restriction against those?

Answer

No, they are on a rotating schedule.

Question

Could we have a visit staff on the next call?

Answer

Dr. Heinrich is on vacation. Ms. Robb is part of the visiting group. Both can answer visiting questions you may have.

Question

JPay has been giving complimentary visits twice a week. Will this be renewed into June?

Answer

I haven't heard one way or another. We can check into this.

- **Update: We have reached out to Jpay and are waiting on a response.**

### Question

When I spoke with JPay they said the agreement was 15 minutes for the free one. But if you schedule the half hour segment, it said we were using the two free ones in the one-half hour.

### Answer

We can check with our HQ person and Jpay liaison. I have not heard this come up before. We will run this through Mr. DeFlicht.

- **Update from Jpay: You should be able to book 2 free 30 minute video visits.**

### Question

I have concerns in Nora unit with the kiosk. I constantly see individuals giving me the bird. There is no privacy screen on the kiosk.

### Answer

We will check into it.

- **Update: A purchase request has been submitted for the privacy screen. The unit has been notified to watch for this behavior.**

### Comments/Closing

We are hoping to get tests back from T unit B side so they can go off quarantine so can we move forward. Medical continues to do a heroic job to take care of the population during this time. We are hoping to know more by the end of the week. If information goes to the population regarding that, you will receive it. Get questions into Ms. Robb by Tuesday before the next meeting. Be safe and have a good week.