

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: Coyote Ridge Corrections Center

Date and Time: 03/25/2021 @ 0900

Attendees

- **Local Family Council Members**
- **DOC Staff:**

Eric Askren, Chaplain	Kate Jansen, Administrative Assistant
Ken Jennings, Health Services Manager	Ron Thompson, Captain
Michelle Duncan, Associate Superintendent	
Paige Perkinson, Engagement and Outreach	
- **OMBUDS**
Caitlyn Robertson, OCO
- Please note:
 - Questions for upcoming meetings are to be emailed to Kate Jansen at catherine.jansen@doc1.wa.gov no later than 8:00 am Wednesday. It is important that we received questions in advance to provide us time to research the answer. Not receiving questions may create a delay in a response.
 - All questions received afterwards will be held over to the next week or if time allows asked during the end of the conference call.
 - All questions sent to our staff before the informational sharing phone call during the week, will be answered on the Friday phone calls or forwarded onto DOCCOVID19@DOC.WA.GOV for appropriate response.
- Additional guidelines:
 - Meeting time will be one (1) hour.
 - We will answer all the questions first and open up for questions/comments afterwards.
 - If any questions are left unanswered at the end of the meeting, we will add them to the next meeting.
 - Please ensure your phones are on mute.
 - Please provide your name before asking a question or responding.
- **Please do not share COVID-19 informational call phone-In Information with others, especially via social media.**
- If you, or you know someone that has a loved one at CRCC and would like to be added to the LFC list to receive call in information, meeting minutes and other correspondence the facility may send out please send an email to catherine.jansen@doc1.wa.gov or miduncan@doc1.wa.gov.

Weekly Update

Testing

Staff – 178

Incarcerated Individuals: 399

CRCC – MSC: 281 (2 in the last 30 days)

CRCC – MSU: 118

In hospital: 0

Isolation: 1

Quarantine: 25

Transfer Separation: 41

MSU Unit Operations:

The MSU living units continue to run with normal operations with the identified cohorts and schedule.

MSC Unit Operations

The MSC living units continue to operate with the identified cohorts and schedule.

Safe Start

WA DOC remains in Phase 1 of the Safe Start Initiative. No information has been shared regarding in-person visitation resuming.

Questions

Question

How many vaccinations have been administered to staff? How many have been administered to the population?

Answer:

That information is available on the DOC website at <https://doc.wa.gov/corrections/covid-19/data-vaccines.htm>. The current numbers posted for CRCC is 1,119 doses.

Question

Why do our loved ones have to wear a mask during video visits if CO's won't wear them? Especially since there is an area marked off to stay 6 feet away from the kiosk.

Answer:

It is the direction of Department, to include CRCC, that surgical masks are to be worn by anyone inside the facility. This is to include both staff and individuals. Social distancing is also a high priority for the Department. This is the best way to ensure the safety of everyone inside the facility.

Question

Why are there being announcements made that the men will be returned to their house if they don't have a mask on OUTSIDE if the officers won't wear a mask?

Answer:

Again, it is a requirement that all persons inside the facility wear a surgical mask. When we see someone that is not following this directive, that is addressed with the individual.

Question

What is the status of the care packages that CRCC was supposed to get?

Answer:

We are looking at what funding is available for some more comfort items for the population. We are looking at several items that we could put in the care packages, to include non-food items. Family members mentioned that coffee and creamer or flavor water pack to be included if an option.

Question

What is the reason for CRCC holding out on providing religious activities?

Answer:

We do have a plan to resume some of the religious programming on Monday April 4th. MSU has been running a revised religious services schedule for about the last 2 months. We do this for social distancing reasons. At the main facility, at the beginning of March we were able to get the individuals over by cohort for some religious activities. At the beginning of April, we will be expanding that to have access to religious services at least once a month, which is to include individual activities twice a month. We have been very excited to get this going, and we are excited to see us moving forward.

Question

Why is there no movement on visitation since we are almost in Phase 3 as a state? What information can be given about this?

Answer:

CRCC does not make the decision of when visitation will resume. This is being discussed at the HQ level. I can tell you that Coyote Ridge has started installing their barriers, so that when we get the direction from Headquarters, we can resume visitation as quickly as possible.

Question

Is it true that if they aren't wearing a mask that they can get an infraction?

Answer:

We encourage progressive discipline. It is possible if the individual has been addressed about this issue multiple times. During normal operations, we don't allow face covering for identification purposes. However, during COVID, that has been adjusted.

Question

What changed the video visit policy? What happened that caused this change?

Answer:

The direction that all persons are required to wear face masks started with COVID-19. This direction supersedes the current policy regarding this.

Question

Has there been any talk about opening the weight deck?

Answer:

I have no information on the re-opening of the weight deck at this time.

Question

I have heard that the kitchen workers are preparing for full mainline in April. Have you heard anything about that?

Answer:

I haven't heard anything about that.

Question

Would we open the dayrooms if we fully re-opening mainline?

Answer:

I am not aware of any information to resume normal mainline operations. As for the dayrooms, it is in regard to the social distancing, so it has to do with square footage. The dining room and yards are larger spaces to accommodate the social distancing requirements. However, the dayrooms don't have nearly as much square footage. That is why we are running the unit operations the way we are.

Question

With increased stress of COVID and no visitation, how is that affecting the mental health of the incarcerated?

Answer:

We have Mental Health services available at any time. If they would like to talk to a mental health professional, they simply need to notify a staff member.

Question

When will they resume their regular mental health visits? Dental visits?

Answer:

Those have been resumed for quite some time. If they would like to receive services, please have them contact Medical.

Question

With the care packages, do you have an estimated time that those will be done?

Answer:

I am getting that sent up to Headquarters. Once I have approval for funding, we will be able to get it ordered. I am hoping by mid-April they should be completed.

Question

I have a concern about the grab and go meals, and that they aren't getting enough calories for the day. What can you tell me about the nutritional contents of their meals? I had put my loved one lunch meal in my fitness pal and it was not nearly enough calories for a grown man.

Answer:

I know that our meals are based from nutritional guidelines. I will reach out to our Food Service department and see if I can get some more information regarding the nutritional value of our meals.

Update: Information provided by the Food Service Department:

The Department of Corrections determines nutritional values and caloric requirements for the incarcerated population by following the standards in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA's). This determines not only the calorie threshold but also the macronutrient requirement such as protein, fat and carbohydrate ratios.

Please see below for the current standards:

	Recommended Adult Female	Recommended Adult Male
Calories	1,800 – 2,100 calories	2,600 – 2,900 calories
Protein (grams)	10% - 20%	10% - 20%
Carbohydrate (grams)	50% - 60%	50% - 60%
Dietary Fiber (grams)	28g	38g
Sugar (grams)	< 10% of daily calories	< 10% of daily calories
Fat (grams)	25-35% of calories	25-35% of calories
Saturated Fat (grams)	<10% of calories	<10% of calories
Calcium (mg)	1,000 mg	1,000 mg
Iron (mg)	18 mg	8 mg
Sodium (mg)	2300 mg	2300 mg
Vitamin D (IU)	800 IU	800 IU
Potassium (mg)	4700 mg	4700 mg

Question

I am curious about some of the terms that are used, how is the staff trained regarding what they can or can't call our loved ones?

Answer:

Terms used by those incarcerated have transitioned over the years from prisoner, convict, inmate, and offender and now the Department preferred term is incarcerated individual. This is communicated with our staff and the department is in the process of changing the term in all policies and communication.

Question

Have you guys heard of the Amends program?

Answer:

According to Captain Thompson, there is a committee from Headquarters working on it. There would be training for staff about how to engage in a positive way. The program is out there, and we encourage any programming that the state is looking to implement. I hope to hear more about this as information becomes available.

- Thank you for joining us. Next week's call will be Thursday April 8, 2021 @0900.