

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Details

Facility: Monroe Correctional Complex

Date and Time: 12/18/20, 1:00 PM

Attendees

Lynn Barker
David Bullard
Jody Bullard
Karen Cain
Felix D'allesandro
Caryl Darby
Diane Durall
Angela Hinton
Josephine Johnson
Diana Knesek
Christine Mathison
Stephanie Meadows
Diane Pasta
Rob Tarver
Joanne Todd
Carol Welch
Ina McNeese
Kathleen Bechler
Kari Styles
Karen Haydon
Sgt. Shaw
Dan Allen
Mathias Gyde

Weekly Update

So far we have done 19,900 tests on staff and contractors. During the period of 12/11 thru 12/17 we have had 1 staff test positive.

COVID Unit - 8 on isolation; 3 Violators, 1 TRU, 2 SOU, and 2 WSRU. 8 on quarantine, 3 from WSR and 5 from SOU.

SOU Quarantine

C-Unit, 25

Core Infirmary, 1

WSR Quarantine

C-Unit, 169

D-Unit, 164

Both TRU and MSU were released from Quarantine yesterday 12/17/20.

If all goes well, WSR may release from Quarantine on the morning of 12/22/20.

Update on Kosher Breakfasts

There are important topic notes considering an 'enhanced' breakfast for the Kosher Diet participants, without boiled eggs:

1. *The DOC Kosher menu does not include a hot breakfast, either before or after the transition period stated above. Historically, the Kosher participants have always received a cold breakfast 7 days a week. This menu 'pattern' is DOC-wide, regardless of facility.*
2. *The Kosher participants receive full, hot dinner entrée meals at both lunch and dinner, which is not mirrored in the mainline menu.*
3. *Kosher participants receive carton milk at all breakfasts, and a double serving on Sunday lunch; which is more than the mainline participants over the menu cycle.*
4. *Mainline 'enhanced' breakfast has had caloric balancing for eggs by removing breakfast muffins from that menu group.*
5. *The other facilities, since 2018, that participated in the 'enhanced' breakfast, have all served the Kosher menu to the same methodology, without boiled eggs.*

JPay Screening

CPM Miller reports we did have a rather significant back log. I went and asked for approval to allow the staff to work overtime and this has significantly helped in reducing the numbers from about 12,000 to 3,000.

Statewide Family Council Representative Felix D'Allesandro gave an update to Comfort Items for the population.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Question 1

Can the Individuals on quarantine order their store with paper? It takes 10 to 15 minutes to order via telephone and they are having a hard time getting enough telephone time.

Answer

I'm happy to follow up with Correctional Industries. Correctional Industries has been working with extreme staffing deficits, in addition to taking on responsibilities normally assigned to AHCC. Processing of paper store orders, rather than electronic, may be more than can be handled at the moment.

Additional Questions

Question 1

There is cold air blowing in on the air handling unit.

Answer

Captain McNeese will follow up with maintenance

Question 2 - Comment

Thank you for the hard work in keeping our families safe. It really means a lot to all of us.

Question 3

A question about cleaning between the Cohorts before the next groups gets out. It is reported that it doesn't always get done. (WSR C and D units).

Answer

Captain McNeese will follow up with the CUS to ensure the cleaning is completed.

Question 4 - Comment

There is an update to the video visits that families should download prior to the visit. This is because Adobe is going away and the new program will be necessary to connect for video visits.

Question 5

Is there a way to get law library access and library books for the quarantine units? (WSR C and D units)

Answer

Our Law Librarian was asked to compile a list of Individuals (if any) that have current court dead-lines that would qualify them for priority access. In addition, the Librarian is still required to assist Individuals, quarantine or not. As for donated books or books not affiliated with the Washington State Library system, we may still have some and Captain McNeese will check to see what can be done.

Question 6

When a pipe on the unit burst, the population were using blankets to clean up the water. Are the blankets then returned to the unit and are they safe to use?

Answer

When and/or if laundry is contaminated, we have a HAZMAT process for safe cleaning of items. Yes, once through this cleaning process, they are safe for issue.

Follow up - Laundry was slowed due to Quarantine, but the service didn't stop. They are working hard to get caught up. WSR C and D units were advised to conduct an inventory and ensure appropriate blankets and sheets were maintained on the unit.

Question 7 - Comment

Mental health staff are making their rounds and checking on the quarantined units but they should be checking on them earlier than the second week.

Question 8

There was a question about outdoor recreation and weight decks.

Answer

Review of weight deck use was conducted by the Safe Start Corrections Committee before the recent outbreaks of COVID-19. At that time, there was much discussion about the Governor's requirements in the different phases. Those spacing and limited access requirements were so restrictive that it was not likely the indoor weight decks would be opened. With such restrictions, it would make the cost (Individual paid Recreation fee) versus allowable access time feel inequitable. WSR is one of the few facilities that have an out-door weight deck and given an opportunity, Captain McNeese would like to see it get opened.

Comments/Closing

Sgt. Shaw said she missed the visitors and kids and will be happy when we are able to get back to visiting.

Thanks for your continued support and patience,