

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Details

Facility: Monroe Correctional Complex

Date and Time: 02/12/2021, 10:00am to 12:00pm

Attendees

David Bullard
Jody Bullard
Karen Cain
Emily Cox
Felix D'Allesandro
Caryl Darby
Diane Durall
Laynara Ferriera
Angela Hinton
Josphine Johnson
Diana Knesek
Nancy Madrigal
Bridget Molina
Cait Moore
Diane Pasta
Joanne Todd
Carol Welch
LaQuesha Turner
Domenica Campbell
Page Perkinson
Terry Cohn
Melida Ferrell
Kristi Webb
Jack Warner
Karen Haydon
Kari Styles
Ina McNeese
Kathleen Bechler

Weekly Update

Last 30 days confirmed COVID cases 209. Total number of confirmed cases 523.

MCC WSRU A Unit remains on Quarantine.

I have received several questions from council and family members regarding our business practice in Correctional Industries regarding work bays being secured.

It has always been a requirement to keep bay and work areas secured. Unfortunately over the years there was drift. Individuals do get access to the bathroom hourly. Concerns related to safety are monitored and resolved when necessary.

Questions

Question 1

Will the gym be reopened for recreation, or will it stay an isolation unit for the coming months. Is there a timeline status on the gym?

Answer

The WSR Gym will remain as housing for asymptomatic COVID patients. There is currently no projected date for decommissioning this area. Once we receive the all clear, Captain McNeese will let the Council know.

Question 2

Will individuals who are employed under class 3 jobs, and can't go to work due to them on isolation or quarantine, still be paid?

Answer

A stipend pay was approved for facilities that are in outbreak status. Superintendent Jackson received approval for the \$30 stipend pay on January 3, 2021. This includes all workers no matter where they work.

Question 3

Will our Evergreen Services cards be usable even though it's been this long a period of time?

Answer

Yes, money on the cards stays on the cards. I have found one of my old cards from 3 years ago and I was able to use it.

Question 4

Could the handwashing issue out in the sign shop be addressed on the COVID call since it is related to COVID?

Answer

I have reached out for response to this question, but I have not received a response yet.

Question 5

Another question is - while I understand the cohorts, but I am hearing on C/D side there is no cleaning being done between phone uses, or any type of cleaning like before. I understand they are considered "recovered" but from my understanding the COVID protocols should still be being followed, which means there should be cleaning being done as it was previously.

Answer

I have spoken to the Unit Sergeant about this, there are several porters assigned to clean and there are also spray bottles made available. Unfortunately, some individuals take those spray bottles for their personal use.

Question 6

Do the Superintendents read the OCO recommendations? Is it a requirement for them or who gets the reports at MCC from the OCO office?

Answer

We all receive and read copies of the OCO report and follow up on issues as they arise.

Question 7

How many transfers have been happening to/from MCC? I know chains from Shelton are going out, but wondering about the transfers for MCC.

Answer

We have not had any regular transfers yet, but do expect to have some in the future. SOU has had a few individuals transfer in due to health concerns.

Question 8

I am attaching two documents from the IRS, that describe the process for Recovery Rebate, for individuals within prison. My intention and concern is that apparently the Mailroom is rejecting IRS forms that are able to support the population to complete the process of filling out these forms in order to receive their IRS money.

Answer

IRS forms are available for Incarcerated Individuals. Once completed by the individual, the mailroom does not reject out-going IRS forms.

Additional Questions

Question 1

Is there a rule that states DOC policy or messages cannot be mailed in?

Answer

I don't know, but I will find out.

Question 2

My loved one's Jpay tablet is broken, should I buy new now, or wait for the new tablets with the telephone feature?

Answer

New players may become necessary when the contract negotiations are final. Unfortunately, I don't have a timeline. There are some States that have telephone access on their players or tablets and this option is being considered. One of our members recently needed a player for their loved one and was able to get it at half price, so you might want to look into that.

Question 3

There were many questions regarding form # 13-035 authorization for Disclosure of Health Information. Will the form follow my loved one from his former facility? How long does it take to take effect? Are the forms available to our loved ones?

Answer

There is an expiration date on the form and if a date is not put in that line, it will default to 6 months and will expire without notification. I don't know if the form will follow your loved one, but you might want to have him check to make sure. Once the form is in effect your loved one will give you a pin use to get the information. The forms are available and if they can't find one, they will just have to ask for one.

Question 4

The RDCF in the Rec Yard at TRU has staff coming in and out through the TRU main entry. I thought they would have a separate entry, does that cross contaminate with population?

Answer

The RDCF has an ante-room used as a donning and doffing station for PPE. This area works as a clean room area and staff must go through to put on clean PPE before entering an isolation unit, and take off contaminated PPE before leaving to other areas.

Incarcerated Individuals transferring into and out of the RDCF do not come through Receiving and Release (where individuals would "normally" in/out-process). They are escorted by vehicle into the facility grounds and escorted through the Yard entry. They at no time have contact, or cross paths with the incarcerated at TRU.

Question 5

I gave information about staff not wearing a face mask on the unit. What is happening with that?

Answer

The situation is currently being investigated.

Question 6

Do you have an update to the poor quality of the TV reception?

Answer

I believe the equipment has arrived to make the repairs, but I don't have a date as to when the work will be completed. I will follow up.

Question 6

I live overseas with an 8 hour time difference. Does DOC give times that my loved one can make calls to talk with the children? Communication with the time difference is difficult.

Answer

Yours is a unique situation. This is something that perhaps can be taken into consideration. I would encourage your loved one to discuss this with his unit sergeant and/or CUS.

Closing remarks

Thank you everyone. Have a good weekend.