

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Details

Facility: Monroe Correctional Complex

Date and Time: 5/7/2021, 1 pm – 2:30 pm

Attendees

Lynn barker
Karen Cain
Suzanne Cook
Felix D'Allesandro
Caryl Darby
Kim Day
Diane Durall
Katherine Falla
Bruce Glant
Joanne Glant
Angela Hinton
Josephine Johnson
Cait Moore
Diane Pasta
Joanne Todd
Carol Welch
Emma Westerman
Byron Coates
Rachael Symon
Karen Haydon
Evie Green
Arig Awad
Terry Cohn
Mark Miller
Page Perkinson
Matthias Gyde
Jeremy Berkley
Ina McNeese
Kathleen Bechler

Weekly Update

We currently have 1 confirmed case at our COVID unit in the IMU. Zero general population living units are on quarantine status. MCC has had a total of 552 Incarcerated/Violators with confirmed COVID.

To date, MCC has had 152 confirmed staff cases, an increase of 4 since our last meeting on 4/23.

****Corrections defines a Limited Area Outbreak in a prison facility as:**

- Two or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in incarcerated individuals occurring within 14 days who reside in the same living area OR
- One or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in an incarcerated individual AND
- One or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in DOC staff working in proximity to the incarcerated individual case/cases occurring within 14 days

***Corrections defines a Facility Wide Outbreak in a prison facility as:**

- Two or more Limited Area Outbreaks that are connected, occurring simultaneously in the same facility.

Current as of Tuesday, May 4, 2021. Data and graphs are updated weekly on Tuesday, excluding [holidays](#) .

COVID-19 vaccine supply continues to be limited across Washington State. The department's ability to offer COVID-19 vaccinations continues to be dependent on the vaccine doses allocated to the department by the [Department of Health](#) .

On Friday, April 30, 2021 at the [Monroe Correctional Complex](#), health services staff identified the Moderna vaccine dose administered to approximately 208 incarcerated individuals had exceed it's 'beyond use' date by about five days. The issue was discovered in the course of quality assurance checks. The Department of Corrections contacted Moderna that day to determine the effectiveness of the vaccine. Moderna responded on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 to confirm the vaccine dose is still effective and provides the protection needed against COVID-19. Individuals who received the vaccine are being notified in one on one meetings with health services staff. Also, the health services team is reviewing protocols, discussing training and has provided additional direction to vaccination teams to ensure this occurrence is not repeated.

- [Vaccine Administration Status by Vaccine Facility](#)
- [Total Vaccinations Administered](#)
- [Vaccine Administered Sunday thru Saturday](#)

MCC has delivered a total of 1,508 first doses of the Moderna Vaccine and 895 second doses. Of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine we have delivered 48.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Question 1

What is the status of mattress replacements on C and D unit at WSR?

Answer

I spoke with the Unit Sergeant today. We continue to order mattresses monthly, I learned this morning that the normal 10 per month was bumped up to 20. Many of our population have a second mattress and we will continue to provide replacements for those that may be worn down or in disrepair.

Question 2

The DOC website said to give 10 days processing time for in-person visits, but the site went live on Monday the 3rd with the first available date of May 9th, not 10 days. Are any visits being scheduled for this weekend?

Answer

Yes. MCC has scheduled a total of 117 visitors for 140 incarcerated individuals. Visits have to be scheduled in the order they are received and not all of the visit requests received this week were for this coming weekend. We are learning as we go through this process.

MCC's Visiting Scheduler has to provide the list of scheduled visits to the CPMs office by close of business the Thursday before the Visiting weekend so that call-outs can be entered into the system and posted on the units.

Another thing to consider, if you make an appointment to visit, you cannot schedule a second visit until your first visit is complete. In the meantime, if another person requests to visit your loved one for the next month, their request will be processed in the order in which it was received.

Additional Questions

Question 1

When will we be able to order the new JPay players?

Answer

I don't know yet, but when I know, I will share.

Update 5/12/21 – I contacted our liaison at DOC Headquarters with this question. I was informed there has been no final decision, and he is not prepared to commit to an anticipated date.

Question 2

When I tried to schedule a visit but I didn't get a confirmation. If I don't have the confirmation, will this count as missing the visit appointment?

Answer

The visit will not count until you get a confirmation of the visit.

Question 3

Who is in charge of the vaccinations? What can you tell us about the expired vaccinations?

Answer

Only medical staff administer the vaccines. The Moderna vaccine has a use by date marked on the box, not the vial. This date is specific to if it is maintained in a freezer. Once received at the facility it is placed in a refrigerator and is good for 30 days in this fridge. The date of use by was 4/26 for the vaccine provided on 4/30. No other date of vaccine clinic was affected. The use by date was discovered by a quality assurance check. We are now labeling the vaccines differently and we contacted Moderna, who had no concerns; no additional vaccine is necessary and no medical concerns.

We are trying to be transparent. Our medical staff strives to provide the best care and we are taking the situation seriously. Medical staff have reached out to all who had the vaccine.

Question 4

My loved one received his first vaccine, but didn't get the second vaccine until almost 6 weeks from his first vaccine. Are we still within the proper timelines? Will he need another vaccination?

Answer

Moderna has provided the schedule of timelines of the vaccine and that is within the window of time for the Moderna vaccine. There is a cushion of 4 to 8 weeks between the doses of the vaccine. There is no need for him to revaccinate. Here is the link to the DOH Website. [Click here.](#)

Comment

With the information we are getting about the shot, this information would be beneficial to get out to the population.

Question 5

When I come in for a visit, I am told to be here 15 minutes prior to the scheduled visit. Will I be permitted to pull into the parking lot and wait before going in the 15 minutes early?

Answer

Yes. There will not be the number of visitors to process due to the limitations and we try to accommodate. You shouldn't have to be here too much in advance of the visit.

Question 6

How will the tower know I am here for a visit?

Answer

As you come up the hill you will find a screening station at all entrances located before the tower in which you would check in. You will be asked a series of screening questions and have your temperature taken. If you don't have your own mask, you will be issued one. If you can, bring your Visit Confirmation, if you are unable to print and bring it with you, you will not be turned away.

Question 7

What does DOC have in place for visitors coming from far away?

Answer

There is no plan for special visits yet, but we want flexibility for those with special needs. Please send me an email if you have a particular question to ask.

Note: If you need a voucher for money for visits, email Gheorge Turcin, Family Services (gturcin@DOC1.WA.GOV) for information on assistance available.

Question 8

The Visiting schedule system asks for the unit and wing at TRU and it's confusing, how can we tell what wing our loved on is on?

Answer

At TRU. if the room number starts with 1 or 2, it is A wing, 3 or 4 is B wing and 5 or 6 is C Wing.

Question 9

I heard Matthew House may no longer be in operation and that clothing will no longer be available for visiting. Can people donate clothes for visiting?

Answer

We will make sure there is clothing we can loan visitors to assist with visiting, although we don't have the new process in place yet.

Question 10

Video visits weren't showing the scheduling times and time reserved doesn't show.

Answer

There was a bug in system which has since been resolved.

Question 11

Can you tell us about the MCC Cable package? The cartoon channel was removed, and we would like to see digital cable for the whole hill.

Answer

The cable contract MCC has with Comcast runs until 2023 and we don't have control of the removal of the cartoon channel. MCC received extra money to upgrade our system and we are waiting for the installation of the upgrades. I will try to find out more information if I can.

Question 12

I heard that searches are starting up again. Is being searched really safe in regard to the spread of COVID?

Answer

There was a brutal assault on staff with a weapon and a stabbing of an Incarcerated Individual that could have been much worse there has also been an abundance of homemade brew. With visiting starting up it was decided by unified incident command (Headquarters) that doing searches effective immediately was in the best interest of everyone. Staff wearing gloves will use hand sanitizer on the gloves between searches. We have not heard many complaints by the population and they are not pushing back as they also feel safer with searches being conducted.

Question 13

My loved one says he is cold and after having COVID, he now has a heart condition. What can be done for him?

Answer

Please send me an email with your loved one's name and where they live and I will try to look into this for you.

Question 14

The mattresses that are exchanged seem to be the same thickness as the old mattresses.

Answer

I don't know the thickness of the mattresses. I believe they are doing tests with mattresses at CRCC. We will know the direction to go once we get those results.

Note: At the SFC meeting on Saturday, mattresses are on the agenda for discussion.

Question 15

Who do we contact if we need accommodation with our visits?

Answer

Phone 360-794-2608 Monday to Friday during business hours if accommodation is needed. There is no one evenings or weekends available for visit accommodation.

Comments/Closing

There will be no COVID Teleconference on Friday May 21st. Our next Family Council meeting is on Saturday May 22nd from 10:00 to 12:00 pm.

Thanks everyone. Have a safe weekend see you in two weeks.