

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Details

Facility: Monroe Correctional Complex

Date and Time: 12/17/2021, 1pm – 2pm

Attendees

Joanne Todd	Associate Superintendent Michele Wood
Josephine Johnson	CPM Kari Styles
David Bullard	CPM Terry Cohn
Jody Bullard	CPM Melida Ferrell
Byron Coates	CPM Rick Geer
Kim Day	CI Manager Ron Klamert
Dianne Durall	Dr. Areig Awad
Melody Grandaw	Program Specialist Page Perkinson
Dianne Knesak	Health Services Mgr. Lisa Anderson
Dana Malaha	Local Business Manager Mariam Isaac
Cait Moore	PIO Kristi Webb, AA4
Diane Pasta	CUS Leslie O’Conner
Ron O’Neil	CS Kaela Chong
Ryan Swanek	OCO Angee Schrader
Danielle White	OCO Heather Hamilton
Deputy Director Eric Jackson	Captain Dan Allen
Superintendent Jack Warner	Captain Ina McNeese
Superintendent Dan White	Kathleen Bechler, AA3
Associate Superintendent John Padilla	

Informational Call Update

MCC TRU remains on Outbreak Status. There have been 159 incarcerated individuals who have tested positive for COVID in the last 30 days. MCC has had a total of 728 COVID positive incarcerated individuals to date.

MCC has had a total of 239 confirmed staff cases over the course of the pandemic.

Isolation and Quarantine Units

TRU

Currently, all 4 units at TRU are on quarantine status. Our clinical team and ICP has requested a review of those housed on TRU C Unit with the recommendation to remove this unit from quarantine status. We are awaiting approval to do this.

WSRU

A Unit – WSR General Population Individuals (171) are on quarantine. Their initial COVID testing came back negative. They will be retested on Monday 12/20/21.

B Unit- Currently housing recovered Individuals from TRU. These Individuals have had job screenings and are eligible for work. (84)

C Unit – Currently housing COVID positive asymptomatic Individuals. This is an Isolation Unit. (64)

IMU COVID Unit

IMU Continues to house both COVID positive and Quarantine Individuals on separate Pods.

I will do all I can to keep you informed as we continue to move through this.

TRU E Unit

This is a 20 bed unit that we intend to open this afternoon. It will be an Isolation Unit for those that need more care – but not hospitalization. The Incident Command post has staff who have volunteered to come from other facilities, leaving their families over the holidays to staff E unit to keep your loved ones safe.

Christmas Meal Menu

FRUIT MANDARINE	1 EACH	FRUIT	1 EACH
fresh vegetable	1 CUP	TURKEY HAM & CHEESE	1 EACH
TURKEY & CRANBERRY SAUCE(#30)	6 OZ	HAMBURGER BUN	1 EACH
MASH POTATOES(8OZ)&GRAVY	4 OZ	CHIPS	1 BAG
GREEN BEANS	1 CUP	FRESH VEGGIES	1 CUP
FORTIFIED DRINK	1 EACH	COOKIE	1 PACK
MARGARINE & W/G ROLL	1EA	MUSTARD AND MAYO PC	1 EACH
PIE IND.	1 EA	FORTIFIED DRINK	1 EACH

A dinner sack will be handed out with the holiday meal at lunch.

[Pre-submitted Questions](#)

[Question 1](#)

TRU is on quarantine already, why do you send individuals from there to the IMU for quarantine?

[Answer](#)

Individuals whose cellmate has tested positive for COVID are removed from their quarantine unit at TRU and sent to the IMU quarantine area because they are at higher risk for having been exposed, which increases the possibility of exposure for others in the cohort.

Questions

Question 2

Where do those at WSRU go to recover from WSRU C Unit?

Answer

Headquarters and the Incident Command Post have identified B unit at WSRU as the place for those to have recovered to stay until it is safe for them to return to TRU.

Kristi Webb, AA4 and PIO has asked to reach out to families to see if those from TRU who had visits scheduled would like to visit at WSRU, so they don't miss out on their visit. I know that all involved appreciate Kristi's efforts.

Question 3

Can TRU start their visiting program again?

Answer

Now that they are starting to come off quarantine, they will soon be able to restart their visits. Right now the visit room annex is storing property, but this does not effect the main visit room and we have to get the visit staff back to their regular posts from which they were redeployed. We are working on it.

Question 4

When will the recovered be returned from WSRU to TRU?

Answer

For now the recovered from TRU are at WSRU B Unit and are our largest available work force. WSRU B Unit is currently supporting WSRU Kitchen and supplying meals for WSRU, IMU and TRU. We are working on getting them back to TRU when medically safe to do so. More to come.

Question 5

Why are individuals who are moving due to Quarantine and Isolation being told to pack up their stuff? This causes anxiety as they don't know if they will be shipped out.

Answer

It is not our intent to cause them fear. We have them pack up their own stuff so they know what has gone into the boxes. This reduces tort claims and they know the items will be there when they get back. With their stuff out of the way, it makes it easier to create a clean space for their return. If there were a pending transfer, they would know about it in advance through the normal Classification process.

Question 6

Can you give us an update on booster shots? Can our loved ones request a booster?

Answer

Booster shots are in the early stages of planning and will begin with MSU. We can't give boosters or vaccinations to those who are on isolation or quarantine, also, the booster must be given 6 months after the second vaccine. Individuals can sign up for a booster and they will get the booster at the next clinic they are eligible for. (i.e., off the required time for isolation and quarantine and 6 months after the second vaccine.)

Question 7

Who cleans the units that have been exposed to the virus?

Answer

We have a teams of trained incarcerated porters. They wear complete Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and follow tightened sterilization protocols including bleach protocols and disinfectant. The transport vehicles have a disinfectant fogger which is sprayed on in the vehicles, then wait 10 minutes for it to be sterile, there has been some talk of making those available in shared spaces.

Question 8

When will TRU get off quarantine?

Answer

The dates are fluid, and we must follow a fairly strict medical protocol. Each of the Units have different "start" dates, (A "start" or "re-start" occurs each time someone either tests positive or presents with symptoms) and timelines become quite complicated. We have to wait till there are no longer any positive tests, then wait 7 days for a second test which must come back negative. Once all the results come back negative, the general rule of thumb is 14+1 day of quarantine.

Question 9

Why will C unit be the first to get off quarantine?

Answer

C Unit had the lowest rate of COVID positive test results. We followed the clinical guidelines and they made it through the 14+1 day quarantine with 2 negative COVID tests and no-one presenting with symptoms during that time.

Please encourage your loved ones to continue with hand hygiene and social distancing.

Question 10

Do we know which variant we are dealing with?

Answer

No, DOC is not tracking COVID variants but Washington State Department of Health does work with different labs to collate that type of data.

Question 11

Our loved ones are happy about being outside, but they need to have gloves to keep their hands warm. Can they get some gloves?

Answer

Good question. I will ask.

Question 12

Video visits are very difficult to schedule due to the limited time incarcerated individuals are allowed to move about the unit. Does WSRU B unit get any access to the dayroom to schedule video visits?

Answer

CUS O'Conner says B unit gets 1 hour per day to access dayroom.

Question 13

The Statewide Family Council is recording meetings and is making the meetings available to listen to for those who can't attend. Is this something that we can do at our local family Council meetings?

Answer

I don't know if we will be able to do that. It was also brought up that we would have to have consent from those involved.

Communication has lowered the anxiety for the population. Thank you, Captain McNeese, for the hard work you are doing.

Comment

We have a strike Team Leader working on getting property sorted out and getting it to individuals.

Comments/Closing

Comment

The time of the meeting was discussed to get the most involvement. From the talk of the group we will keep the meeting at 1pm as later has an impact on who can join our meetings. Our next couple of meetings will be on Thursday instead of Friday due to the holidays. An invitation will be going out early next week.

Comment

Deputy Director Eric Jackson

Lots of staff are working hard to keep your loved ones safe. TRU is just now having their first outbreak. There is lots going on and we have staff from other facilities here to assist with the outbreak, leaving their families during the holidays to be here. There is miscommunication getting out and I hope you can share with other visitors what you are hearing on these calls and encourage them to read the minutes on the family Council website. We appreciate you reaching out.

Superintendent Dan White will be leaving WCC where he has been Superintendent and joining MCC to serve as Superintendent for TRU, WSRU and MSU. Superintendent Jack Warner will remain Superintendent of SOU and IMU.

Superintendent White said he is excited to be back and that he supports our Local Family Council.

Thank you everyone. We will talk to you next week.