

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Details

Facility: Monroe Correctional Complex

Date and Time: 2/4/2022, 1pm – 2pm

Attendees

Joanne Todd	Program Specialist Page Perkinson
Josephine Johnson	Harj Aulakh, AA3
David Bullard	Heather Hamilton, OCO
Judy Bullard	Superintendent Dan White
Byron Coates	Associate Superintendent Michele Wood
Carly Darby	Associate Superintendent John Padilla
Kim Day	CPM Terry Cohn
Diane Durall	CPM Rick Geer
Bruce Glant	Health Services Mgr. Lisa Anderson
Joanne Glant	Local Business Manager Mariam Isaac
Melody Grandaw	CS Kaela Chong
Cait Moore	Heather Trenk
Ron O'Neil	CUS Leslie O'Conner
Diane Pasta	Denise Hinrichsen
Jessica Rowland	Captain Dan Allen
Ryan Swanek	Captain Bill Frantz
Kehaulani Walker	Captain Ina McNeese
Program Specialist Monica Ritter	Kathleen Bechler, AA3

Informational Call Update

MCC TRU remains on Outbreak Status. There have been 869 (754) incarcerated individuals who have tested positive for COVID in the last 30 days. MCC has had a total of 1612 COVID positive incarcerated individuals to date.

MCC has had a total of 413 (up from 388) confirmed staff cases over the course of the pandemic.

Isolation and Quarantine Units

SOU

A, C, D and E and F units are on quarantine.

½ of A Unit is now an isolation unit

WSRU

A unit is housing recovered patients who were originally housed on A unit

B unit is isolation, housing patients from TRU

C unit is on isolation housing patients from WSR and MSU

3A is a quarantine unit housing individuals who have not contracted COVID. These individuals are on a single person cohort, this means if one of them tests positive the others will not have to reset their quarantine date. This began on 1/26/22 and will end after 14+1 day. (February 9th)

IMU COVID Unit

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

MSU

A, C and D units are on quarantine, B unit is housing COVID positive MSU individuals. When B unit became full, we had to transition new positive cases to WSR for isolation.

Recovered individuals are allowed additional privileges like weight deck, gymnasium, and the ability to work.

TRU

A, and D units are on Quarantine. B Unit Wings A and B are on isolation with B unit C Wing on quarantine. C Unit is an isolation.

[Pre-Submitted Questions](#)

[Question 1](#)

Laundry came back to WSR B unit still dirty on Wednesday?

[Answer](#)

I imagine how that would happen. I'll be following up with CUS O'Connor.

[Question 2](#)

Why are they getting cold breakfast (cereal, powder milk, 2 slices of dry bread with no P&J or butter) every morning?

The hot meals for dinner are coming in cold.

[Answer](#)

Yes, Correctional Industries has returned to the former breakfast boats, which includes powdered milk. As soon as CI announces that meals are ready for distribution, we retrieve the carts and start delivery. I have heard complaints about lukewarm meals and have provided feedback to CI. We have had staff from other facilities step up to assist with food.

Part of the problem is movement of the food from TRU Kitchen to WSR living units and the lack of insulated food carts. Correctional Industries is trying to correct this.

[Question 3](#)

The guys are being told that every time more guys come into area it resets isolation time. They've had new groups coming in every 2-4 days. They'll never be out of there at that rate.

They are in open front cells yet can only be out 1 hour a day. Did they not all test positive to be there?

Answer

Isolation dates do not get extended every time more individuals move into isolation. Each individual is assessed on their own merit (medically). Consideration is made for date of positive test, symptom onset date, currently present symptoms, vaccination status, etc. It literally looks different for each patient.

When individuals are on quarantine – and someone in their cohort tests positive, it is true that the quarantine date for the remainder starts all over again. This is not applicable to your husband or those in isolation.

There are multiple times in the day that individuals are out and about on the unit – for showers, JPay, microwave access, telephones. etc. Off unit movement to the recreation yard is still limited to one hour a day.

We encourage the population to bring their ideas for better movement on the unit, and many do. All decisions regarding on unit movement, or changes must be predictable, fair, and consistent for all housed there. The reason we cannot allow more than 25 out of their cells at once is a safety issue, as space is limited – and we want to ensure that each have opportunities to get out. There are many who, once out, will remain out and loiter around the telephones – this prevents others from getting out. Therefore, we have created a schedule that is fair for all.

Question 4

Why are you not following the COVID Guidelines?

Answer

The COVID Guidelines are guidance, advice or information aimed at resolving a problem or difficulty provided by Individuals who specialize in infection prevention. These guidelines may need to be adapted based on individual facilities' physical space, staffing, population, operations and other resources and conditions. This may result in variance from the ideal. When variances are made, they will always be whatever is more protective to the patients in our care. This may mean longer times in quarantine and or isolation locations.

Other Questions

Question 1

Is it true, those who are housed in WSR 3A don't have access to JPay?

Answer

Yes, 3A doesn't have a JPay Kiosk but we may be able to make other arrangements to access in other areas.

Question 2

Why are nonmedical staff assisting with COVID testing?

Answer

Staff assisting with testing are receiving proper training on conducting the tests, proper PPE and changing gloves each time. We ensure they understand the process before they can assist with testing. The staff doing the testing don't have access to the portal and never see the results.

Question 3

Why do we need another location for recovered individuals? Can't we let them stay where they are?

Answer

We need to make sure recovered individuals return to a clean unit to make sure they are not getting reinfected. It is extraordinarily difficult to handle the pandemic. Everything we do is to keep everyone safe. Areas are closed and reopened, it is inconvenient for all, lots of work with moving property and ensuring they receive their property in a timely manner.

Question 4

Will DOC allow volunteers to come into the facility to work during the staff crisis? I have asked Headquarters as well.

Answer

No, we do not have permission or a plan in place to allow volunteers to come in.

Question 5

Why is DOC not on the same protocols as everyone else? Anyone who is vaccinated shouldn't need to be on quarantine.

Answer

CDC Guidelines are different for DOC, our directives come from Headquarters clinical, and we must follow the direction we get from them. We have seen individuals and staff who are vaccinated get COVID, and we have also seen individuals and staff who previously had COVID, contract it again.

Question 6

What is the status of store orders? Will the money be refunding if they didn't get store?

Answer

We try to get their store package to follow the person when they move. The store catalogue is posted on the units with dates to order and delivery date. If their package doesn't catch up with them, they should ask the CUS to find out where the package is. If the store order is not able to catch up with the person, their account is credited.

Question 7

JPay system used to take 24 hours to switch locations and now it is taking from 24 to 72 hours to change. I paid for a call that didn't happen and didn't get reimbursed. My new visit was scheduled at the wrong Kiosk.

Answer

I suggest you reach out to Keith DeFlitch (kdeflitch@doc1.wa.gov) who may be able to assist.

Question 8

Who is the CUS of MSU?

Why is the tier at MSU on restrictive status while A/B units are off restriction?

Answer

All tiers at MSU are cohorting according to their tiers. We have no way of separating who is vaccinated or not. We try to separate as well as we can. All MCC is on outbreak status, and we still must do everything by cohorts, even if they are COVID recovered we still cohort by tier. Due to social distancing, we try to restrict the number of people in an area at a time.

For clarification, Correctional Program Manager (CPM Cohn) has oversight of all MSU operations and housing. Correctional Unit Supervisors work under her direction. CUS Kirby is assigned MSU C and D units and CUS Harvold has oversight of A and B units.

Question 9

Is there an update on pay for last quarter? What about the stipend pay while on outbreak status?

Answer

Stipend pay is in the works. Individuals should submit pay questions to their CUS.

Question 10

My Loved one's release of information form keeps disappearing. Perhaps it is being filled out wrong.

Answer

Medical records are not electronic. All copies are hard copy. You should have DOC 03-398 "Authorization to Release Medical Information" in your loved one's file with the end date as the release date. When approved, you will get a password (provided by your loved one) to be used to get medical information.

Non-medical information is an electronic file and hard copies are not kept on the unit. DOC 09-242 "General Authorization for Release of Information" should be scanned into their records naming you to get any information. Unfortunately, this second document has a hard 90 day expiration date.

Comment

Superbowl goodie bags are being handed out to all incarcerated individuals, which they can keep for the Superbowl game or consume when they would like. It appears they appreciate getting them.

Question 11

Is consideration being taken to provide options for a Kosher diet?

Answer

No, all bags are the same.

Question 12

Edmonds Community College is holding the computers for classes until spring. My son is taking computer programming classes and they have a lot of down time. Without a computer to use, they will lose a lot of knowledge without the ability to practice. I have a call in to the Dean to discuss.

Answer

Please let me know the outcome.

Comments/Closing

If you have specific questions, please email them to me in advance so I can get the answers for you. I am still a little behind on publishing the notes, but I will get them done.

Thank you everyone for your collaboration, kindness, and support. Feel free to reach out to me if I can help. Be safe. Talk to you next week.