

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: Stafford Creek Corrections Center

Date and Time: 11-18-20

Attendees

- SCCC Staff – Associate Penrose, ICP & IT5 Bradley
- Other Staff – C. Melhuish - Family Services Division, P. Perkinson – HQ, M. Gyde - OCO
- LFC Officers: State Rep S. Cooksey, Co-Chair M. Fry & Secretary V. Lewis
- Family members – D. Sifres, J. Revay, V. Westman, K. Kaiser, D. Webb-Cristelli, J. Triggs, C. Carl, D. Hunter, E. McKinnon, L. Taylor, J. Griggs & K. Wilks

WEEKLY UPDATES:

- **Quality Assurance Audit** – We had an unannounced quality assurance audit this week and received very positive feedback on the use of PPE's and social distancing in the population and with staff. We continue to hear complaints and we always take them seriously, providing follow-up to all inquiries. Safety has to come first for all.
- **Comcast/Removal of Channel 57** - Comcast recently removed Channel 57, our Movie-Plex station. This was not discussed; it was removed from the packet we pay for and customers were told they could find the movies On Demand. Of course, our incarcerated population do not have access to On Demand, so they will lose out on that channel. The package still costs the same amount.
- **GTL** – GTL continues to attempt to fix phone issues. Please fill out help tickets using the number provided by GTL for phone issues.
- **Lunch Boats** – The Food Services Manager can only order lunch boats from Correctional Industries and has made them aware of the poor quality of the boats we have been receiving during COVID. He reassured that the boats are being rotated appropriately and the incarcerated individuals are given a new meat package when they bring the bad meat to the attention of the staff.
- **Dining hall issues** – The complaint about not following the social distancing process in the dining hall was investigated, videos were reviewed and staff also observed dining hall in progress several times. Two rows of tables are being left vacant between units as directed and all tables are being wiped down between uses.
- **Staff COVID-19 positive result** - The positive test results came in for one staff member; initially no close contacts for staff were identified and only two incarcerated individuals had been identified. On Monday we had a staff member screened out due to symptoms which could possibly be COVID. We did the mapping and 7 incarcerated individuals were quarantined from general population. We at SCCC and those in DOC that are assigned mapping of staff and incarcerated individuals are following all of the recommended processes to keep everyone safe. Here at SCCC we have been vigilant in maintaining a safe environment and close observation of the screening area to keep outbreaks from happening. We have had 5 staff positives since the beginning of COVID and the only incarcerated positives have been in our intake separation so far because they came in with the virus. We will continue to follow all processes to include timelines for quarantine with the incarcerated and staff.

Answers to questions from last meeting -

Question 1

Why does caller ID show up as “unknown caller” rather than an actual phone number like it did previously?

Answer

SCCC has not changed anything with the phones; this is only happening sporadically, so it may fix itself. GTL didn't have an answer.

Question 2

H2 A pod has issues with phones interrupting and dropping calls.

Answer

IIU has notified GTL multiple times and there is nothing further that SCCC can do.

Questions for this week's meeting –

Question 1

We have been told that in the process of the bid for phones/tablets, the Supt. could choose to ask for additional phones to be installed in the units. There are not enough at SCCC, especially in light of the increased calls due to COVID.

Answer

No, the Supt. didn't request more phones in the dayrooms.

Question 2

It has been requested that staff at SCCC make an effort to use the wording “incarcerated individual” or “inmate” rather than “offender.” HQ staff is making an effort to do so and family members would appreciate it if SCCC could do the same.

Answer

This is a work in progress; some staff are more adept to the change than others.

Question 3

There are 3 bad phones in H6 (A side): #2, #5 have bad cords and #7 has buttons that do not work. This was reported to Frank Sanchez.

Answer

Since reports have already been submitted, there is nothing to do on the phones. However, State Rep Susan Cooksey received information that a technician was dispatched in the morning on 11/16/20 to fix the phones.

Question 4

Given the increasing COVID cases statewide and the Governor's new restrictions, can you tell us what new instruction or guidance you have received from DOC?

Answer

We have reversed the start of pat searches and we are diligently working to ensure that staff and incarcerated individuals maintain social distancing and wear their masks appropriately at all times.

Participant Questions –

Question 1

Per Diane Webb-Cristelli, what is SCCC doing regarding searches? It was communicated that SCCC had put an order for staff to begin searches on Monday and failed to get the communication which came out late Friday to cancel that incorporation of searches.

Answer

Upon the Executive Team obtaining the information Monday after 0800 hours, we immediately stopped staff from performing any further searches. However, between the hours of 0400-0800, searches were performed due to staff not being informed. This was not a malicious act. It was also discussed with regards to the 12 I/I's in quarantine that SCCC is following the proper processes.

Question 2

Per Jeannette Revay, will the call-in information for our December 2nd teleconference be the same as today's?

Answer:

The calendar invites that each of you received has the correct information for that specific date. Please review your calendar and use the information for that date; they are not all the same.

Group Discussion -

Per Diane Sifres, she hasn't been able to get through on the phone with GTL to deposit money onto her loved one's phone account. After many attempts, she opened an account online and was successful in depositing money onto that account. Please note this may be an option for those of you who are having issues putting money onto your loved ones accounts.

Per Susan Cooksey, she states there was a memo from Secretary Sinclair that was sent out to all incarcerated individuals through their JPays. She is going to obtain that memo and send it in for review.

Comments/Closing – Thank you all for your participation on today's call. Please have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and be safe. We will meet again on December 2nd.