

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: Stafford Creek Corrections Center

Date and Time: 1-6-21

Attendees

- SCCC Staff – Associate Penrose; CPM Bohon – ICP; IT5 Bradley; K. Tatro, AA3; Sec. Sen. D. Myers
- Other DOC Staff – C. Melhuish, Family Services; P. Perkinson – HQ; OCO – J. Carns, M. Gyde
- LFC Officers: State Rep S. Cooksey; Co-Chair M. Fry & Secy. V. Lewis
- Family members – D. Sifres, S. Hitchcock, B. Duschene, H. Heard, J. Griggs, S. Wade, K. Kaiser, A. Triggs for J. Triggs, C. Carl, S. Acker & T. Young, B. Kehrer, T. Goddard, E. Broussard
- Others – L. Henderson

WEEKLY UPDATES

1. **II mass testing** – We’ve had a reduction in positive results and have more positive “recovered” individuals. We emptied out the Visit Room and P building. They are being deep cleaned and waiting to be used again if needed. We have approximately a dozen being housed in the gym and approximately a dozen housed in the CI Lunchroom. Only symptomatic positive II’s are housed in this area, which makes it easier for nursing staff to attend to those individuals’ needs.
2. **Transfers from WCC** – Yesterday a memo was sent out to the population from Prisons/Health Services Unified Command regarding transfers from WCC that are COVID-19 recovered. These transfers are recovered II’s ONLY that are no longer at risk of the virus and are not contagious. Because of this, those II’s can be housed with anyone in the facility.
3. **Staff serial testing** – We are still doing weekly II and staff testing and have staff returning back to work that were previously screened out. This is providing us with extra manpower in the living units to assist with bathroom breaks.

Question for this week’s meeting

Question 1

What is the definition of and criteria for those II’s considered “recovered?”

Answer

All recovered II’s have tested positive and are at least 14 days past their test date. Medical makes this determination and SCCC Operations gets them moved after notification from Medical. ****Dr. Herrington expanded on the definition and criteria for “recovered” later in these notes****

Participant Questions –

Question 1

Per D. Sifres, do we know what the number count is on the II positives?

Answer

I do not have the exact number but it would be in the 900's. Please remember this is from the beginning of testing and that number does NOT reflect active cases as many of those are recovered meaning we are at ½ or less.

Comment from M. Fry – I would like to thank staff for the fresh oranges as those are very much enjoyed by our loved ones. Other favorites include strawberry applesauce, hummus and the cheesy egg scramble is a big hit over the hard boiled eggs.

Question 2

Per M. Fry, do we have a timeframe for opening the yards?

Answer

Unfortunately, we are not at a point where we can open the yards at this point. We hope to keep going with this trend in the near future when we have enough recovered II's. We are placing those recovered II's in small crews out to CI, Laundry, Engineering and Food Services. We thank you for your continued patience as we take these baby steps towards normalcy. Thank you for the positive feedback, especially on Food Service issues as they've received many negative comments.

Question 3

Per S. Hitchcock, do we have a timeline to get the II's back into their own units? Will they be placed back with their former cellie?

Answer

We can't speculate at this time as we don't know how many positives will be reflected in our II testing efforts. It is our intention to move our II's back into their original units if we can and will try to match with their former cellie. However, there is no guarantee of this as it's a huge task to undertake, but we will do our best.

Question 4

Per S. Wade, I'm not understanding the protocol you are using to move the incarcerated around and it doesn't make sense, especially with my husband's situation.

Answer

As I don't have that specific information at this time, please send my office an email with your concerns and I will review them and get back to you. I would like to point out with the II's that are recovered positive, these individuals can be housed with anyone as they are no longer contagious and are not at risk for contracting the virus at that time. This information is based on clinical decision not an Operations decision.

Question 5

Per E. Broussard, last week I asked if the doors could be opened and I didn't receive an answer.

Answer

Last week's notes did explain that the doors had to remain locked for security reasons. Earlier today I said we would begin incorporating yards when we have enough recovered individuals to do so. Please note that if people don't identify themselves when speaking, the content of discussion will still be included in the notes.

Question 6

Per L. Henderson, my loved one has been having medical issues to include a cough and breathing issues that he was denied medications for. He was told that none were available by nursing staff.

Answer

As I am not medical staff, I am unable to answer this. Dr. Herrington, can you please address this concern?

FMD R. Herrington addressed concerns from a clinical view point.

Question 7

Per E. Broussard, can the filters in H1 be changed out? They are brown and need to be exchanged out for new ones.

Answer

We will forward this request to Engineering and will follow-up with unit supervisory staff to ensure filters were needed to be maintained and if the determination was yes, that they were in fact changed..

Question 8

Per A. Triggs on J. Trigg's behalf, can you please clarify your movement protocol in relationship to testing results and if everything is being properly cleaned?

Answer

In summary, positive individuals are housed together and do not have contact with those in quarantine. Those II's that are quarantined follow a small cohort assigned schedule. Only recovered positives are moved back in with those individuals that have tested negative for the covid virus. The recovered positives are no longer contagious nor can they contract it again at this time. When individuals are moved out of a cell or alternate housing area, that area is cleaned thoroughly before any other II's can be housed in that location.

Question 9

Per A. Triggs on J. Trigg's behalf, what is the policy for recovered positive II's?

Answer

There is no actual policy, but is managed by the Unified Command at HQ. Dr. Herrington, can we have your help explaining this to Ms. Triggs please?

FMD R. Herrington addressed concerns from a clinical view point.

Question 10

Per E. McKinnon, how long do the incarcerated stay immune from the COVID-19 virus and how does this apply to positive individuals housed together and what about false positives? The CDC says people are susceptible for up to 90 days.

Answer

FMD R. Herrington addressed concerns from a clinical view point.

Question 11

Per S. Wade, since SCCC is low on staff and are bringing in C/O's to assist with managing the virus within the facility, what training do they receive and do you use "rent a cops?" I was told this name was used by an officer at SCCC and wanted to ask about it.

Answer

We do not have "rent a cops" and do not have any outside, untrained staff working at SCCC. We have DOC trained C/O's from here and other facilities. We also have ERT (Emergency Response Team) staff working at the facility who are trained specifically in emergent & pandemic situations.

Comments/Closing – I would like to thank everyone for being on the call today and for your patience during these trying times. For those of you that have personal concerns for us to look into, please email our office and we will review & respond to your message. Please be safe; looking forward to hearing from you during next week's call.