

# Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

## Call Details

**Facility:** Stafford Creek Corrections Center

**Date and Time:** 1-13-21

## Attendees

- SCCC Staff – Supt. Haynes, Assoc. Penrose; CPMs Bohon & Schreiber, IT5 Bradley; K. Tatro, AA3, Sec. Sen. Myers & Collecchi
- Other DOC Staff – C. Melhuish & B. Copland, Family Services; P. Perkinson – HQ; OCO – J. Carns, M. Gyde & C. Landa
- LFC Officers: State Rep S. Cooksey; Co-Chair M. Fry & Secy. V. Lewis
- Family members – D. Sifres, E. Broussard, J. Revay, J. & A. Triggs, S. Hitchcock, S. Wade, V. Westman, B. Duschene, J. Griggs, K. Kaiser & T. Young, T. Goddard

## Introduction

We have new rules for our meeting today due to a barrage of emails. Everyone on the call will identify themselves. If you don't want to identify yourself, please get off the call. Thank you. I will now take roll call. I have two (2) questions I will address, then I will do a round robin with all participants.

## Weekly Updates

1. **Corrections COVID-19 Bulletin** – This is sent via kiosk to the population, the units & alternate housing areas daily for posting & II viewing. This is available on I-DOC and can help family members better understand the policies and infectious control guidelines we use for COVID-19 at the facility.
2. **Education** – Today education materials went out to the units. Each student enrolled was given checkout sheet and materials in a clear education bag. Students are required to sign for their materials when received.

## Questions for this week's meeting

### Question 1

Do staff have clear direction on wearing required PPE in housing units & alternate housing areas? :

### Answer

Yes, doors are marked for proper PPE for that specific housing area and donning/doffing stations are set up in all housing areas. Posters containing visual instructions are attached on the wall next to each station. Training on donning/doffing procedures is provided to staff. All staff are emailed a copy of DOC COVID-19 PPE Matrix to clarify which PPE is required for that area.

## Question 2

Masks, shields and gloves are all they seem to wear in unit. Nurses are in full PPE. Why is there a difference?

### Answer

There are different levels of PPE requirements for up close (medical evaluation), and distant exposures. C/O's are expected to maintain social distancing and remind the I/I's to maintain social distancing. Health Care staff are expected to assess and interact with the population in a close capacity, so their level of PPE is higher than custody staff.

Please remember to only ask one question at a time and to give enough time for notes to be taken. This will ensure accuracy.

## Participant Questions –

### Question 1

Per D. Sifres, what is the count of those II's that are positive from today?

### Answer

None.

### Question 2

Per J. Revay, has there been any changes regarding mail delivery and is it being sent out in a more-timely manner? Is processing mail categories the same?

### Answer

The mail is sorted daily. If an II moves to another location, that II's mail is placed in a plastic bag marked with current location. As there are many moves that happen daily, this has caused delays. Yes, those remain the same.

### Question 3

Per J. Triggs, what is the definition of "recovered?"

### Answer

Per Associate Penrose - I don't have an answer for that. HQ Emergency Operations Center is working on a consistent definition for more unified terms that translates facility to facility. We hope to receive this information before the end of this week.

Per P. Perkinson - Clinical leadership is working on protocols for this, but no information has been disseminated yet.

Per Dr. Herrington - This question is clinically tricky to answer. What we're trying to get at is whether and when a covid patient is no longer contagious. Our understanding is that an individual can become sick, get better and still test positive but that individual is no longer contagious. We actually prefer not to retest a covid positive patient again as we presume they may still test positive and if they are recovered this would require the department to place the individual back onto medical isolation, though they may no longer be contagious. What we are working on is developing criteria to determine

whether or not an individual is still infectious. We are working through this with the appropriate diligence.

Comment from Co-Chair M. Fry – Regarding the laptops from Education, when I was speaking to my loved one, 50 were being delivered to that area and are allowed to be used in the day rooms. This is great news.

#### Question 4

Per State Rep S. Cooksey, are any of our incarcerated on ventilators?

#### Answer

Per Dr. Herrington – If individuals require a ventilator they are transferred to a hospital. No individuals housed at SCCC are on a ventilator.

#### Question 5

Per V. Westman, I have a matter to discuss but it is not COVID related.

#### Answer

Please send our office an email so that it can be addressed. Thank you.

#### Question 6

Per S. Wade, it is important to know who is on the call each week, so thank you for having all announce themselves. Regarding the fans (air filters) in the dayrooms, are these included in all the units

#### Answer

Each unit has an air scrubber. Those II's who have CPAP machines have a small HEPA filter provided for use in their cell.

#### Question 7

Per S. Wade, can we have an update on whether or not they have been changed out?

#### Answer

No, the filters have not been changed out and were installed not that long ago. Since our point of awareness, replacement filters have been ordered and will be installed by staff and checked regularly along with the HEPA filters.

#### Question 8

Per S. Wade, our LFC calendar states our meetings are on Wednesdays, but that is for COVID only. Will we go back to having our regular LFC meeting that was held on Fridays?

#### Answer

Most likely after COVID is over, we will go back to normal and have our meetings on the 2nd Friday of the even months in the Visit Room beginning at 0900. Katy is good about preparing an agenda for the officers to review prior to sending out to the family members that includes their input, as well as our LFC unit Reps. Regarding our weekly COVID meetings, we have tried to go back to every other week, but as we are on outbreak status we will continue weekly meetings until further notice.

### Question 9

Per B. Duschene, I asked a question previously about policy books being available in units to our loved ones due to a lack of access to Law Library.

#### Answer

We have tasked staff with ensuring Policies are made available when requested by incarcerated during this time when the law library is shut down.

### Question 10

Per B. Duschene, can our loved ones get an app put on the II's JPay players? I know that the OCO reports are on there.

#### Answer

We do not know if that is possible or not at this time. That would have to be done at the Headquarters level and would be a great question to bring to the SFC.

### Question 11

Per B. Duschene, more than half of the population don't have TV's yet they are still paying for them. There are many broken TV's but II's don't have access to those. Can this be considered?

#### Answer

On January 15<sup>th</sup> it was determined that SCCC Incarcerated will not be charged TV rental fees for the months of December 2020 and January 2021.

### Question 12

Per B. Duschene, my husband's CPAP doesn't have a HEPA filter.

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose and CPM Bohon, is it a personal unit or on an HSR? IF HSR, it should be on record. Health Services provides an air cleaner unit for those II's who have CPAP machines and are COVID-19 positive

### Question 13

Per T. Young, when an II is moved back after testing protocol is complete, where does that person go? Are they moved to their original housing assignment or to another area? My son is supposed to be going to the Vet's pod.

#### Answer

It is our intention to try to place our II's back to their original housing assignment if possible. We will do our best to accommodate and put your son in the mission unit. They may not be able to be moved back there at this time, but the facility will continue to move people back to their original housing units as possible.

### Question 14

Per T. Goddard, since you are sending II's back to CI, why can't our loved ones get outside for fresh air or have yard time?

### Answer

We are developing a plan to incorporate yard when it is safe to do so. We have plans to get small work crews back to work and have 30 folks in CI and 12 in Engineering. We are keeping a careful watch on testing data so that no II's are in jeopardy of COVID exposure. Please be patient as we work through this process.

### Question 15

Per S. Hitchcock, when the population go out to yard, they are not patted down. I don't understand why they can't go out to yard.

### Answer

In order to provide yard to the population, we have to examine facility operations and our staffing model to put a plan into place that is safe for all. It is our intention to provide yard and we will do so as soon as we are able. Evidence has shown that when individuals are outdoors, they tend to remove their face coverings and congregate, so the facility has to ensure there are proper protocols in place before implementing these plans.

### Question 16

Per S. Wade, why can't a cohort of 50 II's, like a positive unit go out to yard at the same time?

### Answer

We are developing a plan of action for our population to have yard time. I know this isn't the answer you want, but we are working towards this and we will provide yard for our population in the future when it is feasible to do so.

### Question 17

Per S. Wade, what is the name of the bulletin you referred to earlier?

### Answer

It is the Corrections' COVID-19 Bulletin.

**Comments/Closing** – I would like to thank everyone for being on the call today and for your questions. We appreciate your patience during these trying times. We will prepare the notes and forward to those that require review. Please be safe & looking forward to hearing from you during next week's call.