

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: Stafford Creek Corrections Center

Date and Time: 1-20-21

Attendees

- SCCC Staff – Supt. Haynes, Assoc. Penrose; CPM Bohon, Dr. Herrington IT5 Bradley; K. Tatro, AA3, Sec. Sen. Myers & Collecchi
- Other DOC Staff – C. Melhuish, Family Services; P. Perkinson – HQ; OCO – M. Gyde & L. “Q” Turner
- LFC Officers: State Rep S. Cooksey; Co-Chair M. Fry & Secy. V. Lewis
- Family members – D. Sifres, J. Revay, J. Triggs, S. Hitchcock, V. Westman, B. Duschene, H. Heard, J. Griggs, E. McKinnon, S. Wade, C. Carl, S. Acker & T. Young, T. Goddard & S. Garden

Weekly Updates

1. **Update on filters** – There have been many questions about the air scrubbers, HEPA filters & filter changes. Regarding the air exchangers (scrubbers), the filter should have a year or more of filter life and are not to be touched or serviced in any way by staff or incarcerated individuals. Regarding the HEPA filters, these have been ordered & medical will replace.
2. **Suspension of TV rental for 12/20-1/21** – SCCC is suspending the TV rental fees for the months of December 2020 & January 2021. The Business office will refund all charges for these months only.
3. **Third SCCC COVID-related incarcerated death** – We had an incarcerated individual at SCCC pass away last weekend.

Participant Questions –

Question 1

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

Answer

We have 43 new cases this week, but these numbers won’t be reflected on the website until it is updated.

Question 2

Per J. Revay, I didn’t receive the conference ID this time for today’s call.

Answer

Each calendar notice has the number listed to include the code. We are sorry you didn’t receive it and will look into this so there isn’t a repeat next week.

Question 3

Per S. Hitchcock, can new laundry bags be supplied to the population? I heard that H2 B pod's laundry bags have holes in them.

Answer

We ordered 4,000 new laundry bags for the population, which is 2 bags per individual that need them. **When they arrive, we will begin replacing as needed.**

Question 4

Per S. Hitchcock, H2 B pod's resource room kiosk is out and has been for many days. Can this be fixed?

Answer

If we can't get this fixed right away, we will provide kites for them to communicate with. ****Per CUS Wakefield on 1/21/21, paper kites were provided until kiosk was fixed. H2 B pod kiosk is working****

Question 5

Per S. Cooksey, were you able to find out about store being provided in the gym?

Answer

I am waiting on an email response on this, but it is my understanding that store is provided in the gym. I will look into this ASAP and provide a response. **Communications have been happening between SCCC and the commissary staff, apparently there was a computer glitch, it is supposed to be fixed and the individuals in the gym will get instructions on how to proceed with ordering store from the gym on the phones.**

Question 6

Per V. Westman, my son's testing came back as positive/inconclusive. How can a testing result come back this way?

Answer

I believe this is a misunderstanding. If the result is inconclusive, we isolate that individual and retest for a positive or negative finding.

Question 7

Per B. Duschene, my husband has been in H1 B pod for six (6) weeks to include 3 cell moves. He was told that he can't exchange his blanket. What is a reasonable amount of time for blanket exchange?

Answer

This is a good question and I will look into this as I can't think of a reason why the blanket couldn't be exchanged. **Our practice is blanket exchange is to take place once a month, all of H1 had blanket exchange on 12-21-2021. With that in mind, the next exchange should be coming up very soon.**

Question 8

Per B. Duschene, why is it called Offender Banking when the word offender isn't supposed to be used any longer? Can't this be changed?

Answer

I have no idea; our focus is on priority issues and that all areas of the facility are operational. Also, this is not a COVID related question.

Question 9

Per J. Griggs, when will the population receive yard time?

Answer

We had two (2) clear pods that both received 1 hour of yard today. Those units were H4 A pod and H2 B pod. We are working on identifying cleared areas per our clinical experts for exercise and air and are moving forward with this the best we can. As other pods are cleared, those individuals will receive yard time as well.

Question 10

Per S. Wade, what is a “cleared” pod?

Answer

The individuals housed in a “cleared” pod have been determined by our clinical team as negative for COVID and are no longer contagious to others.

Question 11

Per S. Wade, is H2 A pod a “clear” pod?

Answer

No, H2 A pod has not been “cleared” yet. We have to be very careful that no individual tests positive, that the 14 day wait period has passed and that medical reassures us that there are no sick individuals in that pod. There is a lot of tracking that goes into this, but we are being diligent in our efforts so this results in a longer time frame.

Question 12

Per S. Wade, you said SCCC had 43 positive tests today. What is the time frame for results to come in?

Answer

Testing results usually take 2-3 days, however, we have had to wait up to a week for the results.

Question 13

Per S. Wade, are the tests completed in house or at an outside Lab?

Answer

The Lab we use is Atlas Genomics in Seattle.

Question 14

Per B. Duschene – I have a question for Dr. Herrington. My husband had been waiting for a HEPA filter to go with his CPAP machine. His response from Medical said he was considered recovered. What is the criteria for the HEPA filter?

Answer

Dr. Herrington away from teleconference and unable to respond.

Associate Penrose – If an II is positive for COVID, that individual qualifies for the HEPA filter. Those II’s that are recovered and not contagious do not qualify. There are a limited number of HEPA filters available.

Question 15

Per T. Goddard, my husband works 7 days a week on outside work crew in Engineering. I don't understand why he can't get yard time.

Answer

I realize this is hard to understand but yard is provided pod by pod, not on an individual basis. Those II's deemed as recovered by our clinical team are permitted back to work, which is the priority at this time.

Question 16

Per S. Garden – why is there a difference in isolation times for DOC patients, DOC staff and folks in the community?

Answer

Per Dr. Herrington - As our patients are in close quarters, we tend to be stricter on the criteria used to release from isolation status and I appreciate the difference between isolated incarcerated individuals and those in the community setting. There are differences in isolation times even in the community. For example, I see one county at one (1) week and another at two (2) weeks. People are making the best decisions they can. I don't manage staff and how they isolate themselves, but I can assure you we take covid seriously and we understand the risks of not being sufficiently aggressive with isolation. This is why our time frames are longer. We want to be as responsible as possible to protect our vulnerable population.

Question 17

Per S. Garden, can we purchase hobby craft items for our loved one?

Answer

This was reviewed in 2020 and it was determined there would be no exception to the Recreation Policy.

Question 18

Per S. Garden, area video games provided for those II's in alternate housing areas?

Answer

We do have a limited number of video games available for those II's in alternate housing areas as there is less for them to do as they have no access to JPay and no personal property.

Question 19

Per B. Duschene, is there an update on the hot meals being received cold?

Answer

I have nothing further on that subject.

COMMENT FROM E. MCKINNON – My husband really enjoyed yard today and I am very happy about this. Per Associate Penrose – It's good to hear positive news and that it was well received. Thanks for letting us know.

Question 20

Per S. Wade, what is the policy for hobby craft and what is the reasoning on this?

Answer

This policy was reviewed at the HQ level. It is the in-cell curio policy which is a recreation policy.

****DOC Policy 540.150 – Recreation Program for Offenders****

Question 21

Per J. Triggs, my husband has received six (6) or seven (7) negatives for his COVID testing. He is housed in a unit on quarantine status and is on outside work crew. When can he return to work?

Answer

The outside workers have to be COVID recovered and we received positives today. We realize this is frustrating, but we are erring on the side of caution so as not to spread the infection. Both staff & II's are required to wear their masks and socially distance. This is in everyone's best interest.

Question 22

Per J. Triggs, is he at risk for losing his job?

Answer

No, it is our intention to give those recovered II's their former jobs. But because he hasn't contracted COVID, we do not want to expose him unnecessarily.

Question 23

Per S. Wade, who cleans & sanitizes the JPay kiosks in the living units, namely H2 A pod? I hear they are dirty & not frequently cleaned & sanitized and wonder if things have gotten a little lax as this is the positive unit? These protocols need to be followed; can you make sure this is being done as it should be?

Answer

The porters in the unit are responsible for cleaning and sanitizing all surface areas. We will give this our extra attention and follow-up with the unit. ****The H2 CUS was notified & will ensure cleaning efforts in the pod are being followed per quarantine protocol****

Question 24

Per V. Westman, can the population have tablets while in isolation?

Answer

Yes, they are permitted tablet usage while on isolation status.

Question 25

Per anonymous family member, is SCCC receiving transfers from other facilities?

Answer

Yes.

Family member – we haven't received any new memos on facility transfers and the families should be notified. There have been three (3) incarcerated individual deaths and maybe by keeping the transfers from coming into the facility, this will help with that issue.

Associate Penrose – thank you for your input.

[Comments/Closing](#) – I would like to thank everyone for being on the call today. Please stay safe and take care of yourselves. See you next week.