

# Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

## Call Details

**Facility:** Stafford Creek Corrections Center

**Date and Time:**

## Attendees

- SCCC Staff – Facility Co-Chair/Associate G. Penrose, CPM’s Bohon & Schreiber, Plant Mgr. Matthews, IT5 Bradley, Mental Health – Dr. Cryder, FSM R. Attard, CI Mgr. J. Aliff, LFC Facility Secretary K. Tatro, CPM Secretary D. Myers
- Other DOC staff – Caroline Melhuish, Family Services; Communications Paige Perkinson; OCO – M. Gyde
- LFC Officers: State Rep Susan Cooksey; Co-Chair Miriam Fry, Secretary Vanessa Lewis
- Family members –V. Westman, B. Duschene, J. Griggs, S. Wade, S. Acker & T. Young, T. Goddard

## Weekly Updates

- **II Vaccines** – Some of our incarcerated population have received vaccines and continue to be vaccinated. The actual process hasn’t been disclosed at this time; starting tomorrow (4-8) those II’s that wish to be vaccinated can receive either the Moderna or Johnson & Johnson COVID 19 vaccine. This will be done in steps, by unit & keeping the cohort process, as only a limited number of vaccines are available, and they have to be used before the expiration date. We will work as quickly as possible to get all II’s vaccinated.
- **Mandatory Savings Packets to transfer funds for COVID pandemic**– On 4-30-20 it was authorized to have mandatory savings withdrawals from incarcerated accounts to immediate family to help support through the COVID crisis. As of today, April 7<sup>th</sup>, these will no longer be processed and any requests that were initiated prior to today will be accepted and will go through our administrative process. We are still working through the ones that were submitted throughout the week and will get those processed as quickly as possible. Any requests received after today will not be accepted.
- **3-31-21 Memo to Population from IC Van Ogle** – We had a memo go out on 3-31-21 to our incarcerated population which included the response to our last quality assurance inspection. This revealed that some are not wearing masks when moving on the breezeway & outside yards, which is mandatory per DOC Secretary Sinclair. Due to this non-compliance by some, we will now enforce the mask wearing more stringently. If an II is warned repeatedly for not wearing a mask, they may also receive a BOE (Behavior Observation Entry). If this continues, they may be affected by a WAC 103 violation for failure to follow the rules. The recommended sanction will be loss of yard and gym privileges as that seems to be the place they’re abusing it the most. Those receiving mass violations may also be removed from the authorized list to participate in future fundraiser events. This may seem harsh, but these measures are put into place as an incentive for all to pay attention to the mask wearing.
- **P Building Programming** – On Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, P bldg. programming opened to include education & Law Library. Only the allowed cohorts will be permitted to enter P bldg. on their designated days. Plans have been made to open the gym, weight decks, barber shops

and hobby craft area with a 50% capacity ratio. Weight cards that were purchased prior to COVID-19 shut down of programs, will be honored until the beginning of next quarter, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

- **Reopening Visitation** - A proposal to open Visitation statewide was proposed to the Governor, but we have not heard whether it's been accepted so we are waiting for that decision. By April 21<sup>st</sup>, our 2<sup>nd</sup> COVID meeting in April, we should have some news on this subject.
- **3-19-21 Memo from IC Van Ogle** – A Memo was sent out the population with an update on the new procedures for Kitchen workers. Those working inside the Kitchen will wear a colored vest and will have separate bathrooms to assist with our cohorting efforts.
- **Ombuds onsite for II appointments** – The Ombuds are at the facility all week this week with meetings in the gym with different groups of our incarcerated both Tuesday and Wednesday, as well as with specific individuals on Thursday that have had issues or incidents occur. They'll be meeting with departments and staff members on Friday for resolution of these matters.

## Questions for this week's meeting

### Question 1

Why do the II's have peanut butter sandwiches for lunch 6 days per week?

#### Answer

This is the list of lunch items given out from 3/31/21 through 4/6/21:

- |    |           |           |                           |
|----|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|
| 1. | 3/31/2021 | Wednesday | Breakfast Lunch Tray      |
| 2. | 4/1/2021  | Thursday  | PBJ Lunch Tray            |
| 3. | 4/2/2021  | Friday    | Turkey Bologna Lunch Tray |
| 4. | 4/3/2021  | Saturday  | PBJ Lunch Tray            |
| 5. | 4/4/2021  | Sunday    | PBJ Lunch Tray            |
| 6. | 4/5/2021  | Monday    | Turkey/Ham Lunch Tray     |
| 7. | 4/6/2021  | Tuesday   | PBJ Lunch Tray            |

### Question 2

The vegetable snacks are important, but fresh would be preferable. I am hearing that the carrots are white and the celery have black on the ends. A suggestion would be to have the individual bags of vegetables that seem to stay fresher longer. I seem to recall these being used at WCC and CBCC. This would also be a great way for food to be safer in the midst of our pandemic.

#### Answer

Right now we are receiving precut vegetables. They are inspected before they are given out, so no rotten or marked vegetables are going out.

## Participant Questions –

### Question 1

Per LFC Secy. Williams – So when you look at the DOC COVID report on the website, it refers to a number of 1204; so, what does that mean when it says confirmed cases? Do we still have the 1204 or have they been resolved?

#### Answer

Per CPM Schreiber - This is the total number of confirmed cases since the beginning. We have zero active cases.

### Question 2

Per V. Westman – When you speak about weight cards, what does this mean? I've never heard of them before.

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – We have two (2) fee-based programs; one for the weight deck and one for hobby craft. The II's pay a fee of \$7.00 in order to participate in those programs. The II's that previously paid the weight deck fees before COVID shut it down in the middle of the quarter, were unable to get their full usage. When it is reopened, those II's won't be charged until the new quarter begins as we are trying to be fair to those that already paid.

### Question 3

Per B Duschene – What is the status of the State Library?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – The State Libraries will be reopening; however, our Librarian retired during the year while COVID was here. So, we are waiting for the State Library to hire a new Librarian for us so that we can open our Library. We may be able to have Shelton's (WCC) Library staff come to SCCC and cover for a period of time, but the outcome hasn't been shared with us yet. My understanding is that this is actively being discussed and worked on at this time.

### Question 4

Per S. Wade – The last time we spoke, we were discussing the policy books being made and available in all the units. Have these been printed and in each unit rather than contacting H1 for an appointment?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Yes, we are moving forward with this, but we haven't gotten all of those printed yet as there are 1,000's of pages each. We will get those completed and disseminate to the living units as soon as possible.

### Question 5

Per S. Acker & T. Young – You mentioned that a proposal went to the Governor for in person visitation. Can you tell us what date was proposed for that?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – I do not have a date or any details, but we are just waiting for the Governor to approve/deny it. Paige, if you have anything to say on that, please do so.

Per DOC HQ Paige Perkinson – I don't believe there is an actual set date, but I do know they are working very hard on this and it's going to be soon.

#### Question 6

Per S. Acker & T. Young – We have unfortunately sent a couple of books that our loved one couldn't have and so they are having to send them back to us. We have waited months for one of them to come back and still haven't received it. Is that normal?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – I don't know, but if you can email me, I will look into it and work with the Mailroom to find out what's going on.

#### Question 7

Per C. Melhuish of Family Services – Can we confirm Gina that there is a LFC meeting this Friday morning?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Yes, our bi-monthly meeting is this Friday the 9th from 0900-1100. The agenda was sent out and we will do the best via teleconference. Once the LFC is opened up for in person meetings, we will continue to have them scheduled the 2nd Friday of even months at 0900 so that it's less confusing to folks.

#### Question 8

Per S. Wade – Can you look and then report back on Friday as to the percentage of incarcerated and staff that have been vaccinated?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – I don't have those kinds of records and with vaccines, it's a personal choice and voluntary. So, I can't even ask people if they did as they have their privacy. So, I don't know how I would go about it.

**Comments/Closing** – Thank you all for participating today. We are doing well so far and we hope to continue to do well here and move forward with getting things as close to normal as possible and as quickly as possible. We appreciate any kind of positive input you can give your loved ones to keep the social distancing and masks on. It's always a great help when everyone participates in that. I wish everyone a safe and good day.