

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: Stafford Creek Corrections Center

Date and Time: May 19, 2021

Attendees

- SCCC Staff – Superintendent Haynes, Associate Penrose, CPM Bohon, IT5 Bradley, Facility Secretary Tatro & CPM Secretary Myers
- Other DOC staff – C. Melhuish, Family Services; OCO – M. Gyde
- LFC Officers: State Rep S. Cooksey; & Co-Chair M. Fry
- Family members – J. Revay, S. Hitchcock, V. Westman, B. Duschene, J. Griggs, S. Wade, K. Kaiser & T. Goddard

INTRODUCTION/UPDATES

I know there has been a lot of concern for our status as we've had an uptake in staff positives. Because of this, we completed testing of every incarcerated individual within the facility to include follow-up tests. This reflected only one (1) positive out of the entire population with that individual placed into isolation. The positive came out of H5 B pod, so they are on quarantine until May 26th unless there's another positive or somebody symptomatic comes out of it. So far, we have had nothing of that sort. Due to the increase in staff positives out of our IMU, they were put on quarantine and once we get through that, we'll be back to normal functions. We are in the process of emptying our gym of cots, as we had it ready for use just as a precaution. Once cleared, REC gym will be open again this Saturday 05-22-2021.

Questions for this week's meeting

Question 1

JPay email processing seems to be taking much longer than normal. Is there a reason or special circumstance causing a delay?

Answer

SCCC mailroom is within time frames of processing JPay emails (eMessages). However, due to staffing issues in the mailroom, there has been occasion where time frames were not met. Management is aware of the staffing issues and is working to correct this.

Another contributing factor that is causing delays is the volume of mail that the mailroom has been processing, since the beginning of the pandemic. The mailroom workload has increased exponentially.

Question 2

The Union Supply website says that you could order food every other month. Is that new or is WA DOC still every quarter? Please provide an update on Union Supply ordering and packages.

Answer

The new Bi-monthly Food Package Program is a pilot program that will run consecutively, allowing individuals and their families the opportunity to order 1 (one) food package for their loved ones every other month, which begins June 1, 2021 running through January 31, 2022. The Public DOC Website has been updated and reflects the new Food Package Program schedules.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

1. **Testing recap** – As previously stated, all IIs were tested along with staff; we will maintain staff testing throughout. If we have any kind of concerns or questions about the integrity of our population, we will stop and test them as well. This is done to protect and contain if we do have an outbreak. We are not in outbreak status, are not in a bad place and are doing very well here at SCCC.
2. **Comcast update** – We've been having issues with Comcast and it's impacting more than just our facility – it is an areawide issue. So, if your loved one's state we are having some TV reception and channel issues, it's outside as well as inside the facility. There is nothing we can do within our facility to change this but are aware of it and working with the vendors on resolution.

Participant Questions –

Question 1

Per Co-Chair M. Fry – If a whole pod has been fully vaccinated, do they still have to wear their masks, and do they have to wear their masks while on video chat?

Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Yes, everyone has to wear their mask whether they're fully vaccinated or not and is statewide for DOC. We are not the same as the CDC, so we have to maintain the protocols that have been developed for our tight quarters. Our community is much closer for intermingling than the average community out on the streets. It is required that everybody has to wear their mask, fully vaccinated or not.

Question 2

Per State Rep S. Cooksey – It was noticed that in different units, the cohorts were by tier upper and lower, yet with other pods there wasn't that distinction between upper and lower tiers. Are they all supposed to be cohorting the same?

Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Every unit is supposed to be separating by tier, upper and lower, so that we have proper space for social distancing. So, the answer is yes.

Question 3

Per State Rep S. Cooksey – It was reported on social media that there was a facility-wide phone outage yesterday. Was this the case?

Answer

Per Associate Penrose – I did not hear about this. Did any of the other staff online today hear about a phone outage? I'm going to take that silence as a no Susan.

Question 4

Per State Rep S. Cooksey – Are the barbershops open in the units? How many barbers are there?

Answer

Per Associate Penrose –The barbershop in the Recreation area is open and II sign-ups are for 4 (four) per Recreation period due to COVID limitations. I am not certain as to how many barbers are on duty, but will provide this information during our next COVID meeting.

Question 5

Per Bethany Duschene- Are you still running the inhouse movie station? If not, when will it return, and will it work with Comcast being down?

Answer

Per Associate Penrose - Upon looking into the situation with Channel 25, the DVD player was broken, it has been replaced and the movies are running as of now, 05-20-2021.

Question 6

Per Bethany Duschene- Are there any updates on the State Library?

Answer

Per Associate Penrose – We have not received information back on this yet and do not know where they are at with hiring a Librarian for our facility. I will provide an update when we receive it.

Question 7

Per Bethany Duschene- Are book donations still coming into the units or has that stopped?

Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Yes, we received some books from the State Library and were just getting ready to swap books within the units for some fresh reading. This will ensure a different selection of titles for them to read.

Question 8

Per Susan Wade – I wanted to thank you for the fundraiser; it was well-received, and everybody was having a good time. I hope you can plan for another one soon. Who receives the donations for the fundraisers?

Answer

Per Associate Penrose – I will speak with Mr. Graves our Recreation Supervisor and provide the information during our next COVID call.

Question 9

Per Susan Wade – You said you had an uptake in staff being positive. When did that start, in April?

Answer

Per Associate Penrose – During the past couple of weeks; it reflects in the report that IDOC puts out.

Question10

Per Kat Kaiser- In the Memo that came out on May 14th regarding COVID testing, the last sentence states that if you haven't received the vaccine and are still interested in getting one to please send a kite out to IPN Wayman. My son states he wasn't able to find that person.

Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Please have him send a kite to Medical and he will receive the vaccine. A memo went out today, 05-20-2021, indicating this is how the incarcerated population is to request vaccinations.

Question11

Per Bethany Duschene- When will the veggies be added back at breakfast for the lunch boat?

Answer

Per Associate Penrose – I will speak with FSM Attard and provide the information during our next COVID call.

Comments/Closing – Thank you for being on today's call. We appreciate you tuning in and getting the latest information. We hope to not have any big news for you, which means everything is going well. So, thanks very much and have a great rest of your day.