

# Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

## Call Details

**Facility:** Stafford Creek Corrections Center

**Date and Time:** 9-1-21 3:00pm

## Attendees

- SCCC Staff – Associate Gina Penrose, Associate Dan Van Ogle, CPM Rob Schreiber, LBA Ruth Redding, RN 4 Melissa Lynch, FSM5 Ron Attard, Facility Secretary Katy Tatro
- Other DOC staff – Mike Eby for Caroline Melhuish, Family Services; HQ – Monica Ritter
- LFC Officers: State Rep Susan Cooksey; Co-Chair Miriam Fry, Secretary Vanessa Lewis
- Family members – Emily Broussard, Jeannette Revay, Susan Wade, Bethany Duschene, Kat Kaiser, Tammy Goddard, Lydia Schoen, Tina Tappouni, Andrea Triggs for Julie Triggs, Shawnte Holmes-Davenport

## Monthly Updates:

1. **Limited Area Cluster Status** – SCCC is currently under a limited area cluster status due to two (2) COVID positive results for Engineering staff. All protocols have been met to include staff and II workers from that area receiving double negative COVID testing and completion of the fourteen-day waiting period. We are waiting for HQ to release SCCC from the limited area cluster. As of today, we have one (1) positive II who is in isolation (no cellmate).

## Questions for this week's meeting

### Question 1

With the possible closing of H3/H4, where will the displaced II's go? Is there enough room for them within SCCC with empty beds & releases? Families are very concerned as many have family close, so if they are moved to Eastern WA, it will be difficult to visit. Also, SCCC has aging and infirmary II's that concerns the family members.

### Answer

Any II that has a completed classification plan and transfer will move first. We will displace as few as possible and review hardships when making decisions to move individuals. Voluntary transfers will also be considered.

### Question 2

Staff testing - Allowing staff to work until results are in and then finding out they are positive after they've been working with the incarcerated is not adequate and not acceptable. Rapid testing may not be the most thorough so why not do both at the same time?

### Answer

This would be a HQ decision and not under local control. SCCC follows protocols as directed by HQ and their team of medical experts.

## ROUNDTABLE

### Participant Questions –

#### Question 1

Per Emily Broussard – Were the electrical issues from last year fixed?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Yes, the issues were due to a short in the power line.

#### Question 2

Per Emily Broussard – How long will the cohorts last?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – We have been directed to continue with our cohort process due to the current outbreaks and delta variance until it is deemed safe by the guidance from our medical experts. With the closing of H3/H4, the two (2) cohorts will be revamped so as not to contaminate the entire facility if there is another outbreak.

#### Question 3

Per Vanessa Lewis – Is it COVID-19 or the delta variance on the positive testing?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – I don't know, we may not have the ability to tell the difference between the two.

#### Question 4

Per Beverly Duschene – I heard that soap is no longer being provided to the population. Was communication sent out or posted to the II's regarding this? Do the II's need to order soap from the commissary?

#### Answer

Per IC Van Ogle – We apologize for the miscommunication on this matter; however, soap is to be provided to the population at this time. If it hasn't already, communication will be sent out to the population today. **\*\*A memo was sent out today (9-1-21) by IC Van Ogle to the population instructing them to follow the unit process to request soap\*\***

#### Question 5

Per Beverly Duschene – Regarding the upcoming fundraiser, the II's were told the funds to purchase were to be deducted but haven't been. This affects their ability to order store as they have to plan what they can spend their money on. Also, what is the status of the Vet's movie and how will the funds be handled for that as well?

#### Answer

Per LBA Redding – The paperwork for this fundraiser was received in the Business Office today and will be processed tomorrow. REC Mgr. Graves will be sending out a kiosk to the population with updates on the Shine from the Inside Fundraiser shortly. The food for this event will be pizza, ice cream, cookies, and soda. I am unaware of a Vet's movie fundraiser.

Per Associate Penrose – I am unaware of a Vet’s movie as well but will provide an update as soon as we are able. **\*\*A kiosk message was sent out on 9-2-21 to the population stating the fundraiser HAS NOT been cancelled, the Business Office will be processing the order forms on 9-3 or 9-7 (holiday weekend), no changes can be made to the orders at this point and if a cancellation was requested, orders will be pulled, and no charges will be made. Delivery date has been pushed back to early/mid-October\*\***

#### Question 6

Per Beverly Duschene – Did the Violence Prevention field event get cancelled or is it still a possibility?

#### Answer

Per IC Van Ogle – We have been waiting on the COVID trends and will cancel the VP field events for this year due to the spread of the delta variance. We will be looking at alternative events/activities to engage the population in Violence Prevention.

#### Question 7

Per Beverly Duschene – Can you provide an update regarding religious services? I heard that the Catholics have 2 volunteers. Is this true and what about other religious services?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – We sent out notices to our volunteers to begin bringing them back online at SCCC. This includes volunteers for all religious services. We have lost many volunteers during the shutdown over the past 1.5 years. They will all need to receive their training and be fully vaccinated to volunteer inside the facility.

#### Question 8

Per Susan Wade – With CPM Bohon and Denise Myers moving on to other jobs, does SCCC send out any type of announcements including this information?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – No we do not send out announcements. We leave this up to that individual if he/she wishes to send something out to folks. We do have Sgt. McGinnis as our temporary Visitation Sgt. while Jason Martin, the actual Visitation Sgt. is out, as it is a bid position.

#### Question 9

Per Susan Wade – Is the new CPM that took Mr. Bohon’s place named Evans? And he is over EFV’s and Visitation?

#### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Yes, CPM Shane Evans took Mr. Bohon’s place as the CPM supervising and managing both the EFV’s and Visitation. Sgt. McGinnis is the Sgt. in Visitation with the gold badge when folks arrive for visitation with their loved ones.

#### Question10

Per Susan Wade – Regarding transfer protocols, is SCCC still getting weekly transfers, are they being quarantined for the two (2) weeks and then are they being tested again?

### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – This has been changed. They receive a rapid test before they leave their facility and then are rapid tested here upon arrival. If positives are received, those II's are placed on transfer separation status to either G unit for larger numbers or IMU/SEG for just a few. G unit has wet cells rather than II restrooms, which makes it possible for larger groups of positives to safely quarantine.

### Question11

Per Susan Wade – I heard there was a positive II from the Kitchen. Is this true?

### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Yes.

### Question12

Per Lydia Schoen – Regarding the II transfers, are the bus drivers tested as well?

### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – All staff receive weekly COVID testing.

### Question13

Per Lydia Schoen – Is SCCC testing the population all the time? If not how often?

### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – No we do not. If there is a possibility of cross-contamination or exposure, we obtain the direction of our medical experts and follow their directives. We are only testing positives by contact. An example would be if the II tests positive, we would isolate them and quarantine their cellmate if they have one. If there are symptoms, then that individual would be isolated.

### Question14

Per Lydia Schoen – Regarding the recent positive II from the Kitchen, did all the staff & kitchen workers get tested or just the infected individual?

### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – All kitchen staff and II work crew the infected individual worked with received rapid testing. All tests were negative.

### Question15

Per Lydia Schoen – Are the vaccinated and unvaccinated II's together during contact visitation?

### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Visitation is scheduled one unit at a time for that day; and yes, they are in the visitation room at the same time, however that is why the tables are situated as far apart as they are now.

### Question16

Per Lydia Schoen – Regarding Visitation, can it be opened up to other units as well? With having to wait for 6 weeks to have a visit when not all the spots are filled, is discouraging. Can this be looked at?

### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Visitation scheduling is done by unit only. It is scheduled on a rotating basis, one unit at a time for each individual visit day with four visitation days per week (Friday through Monday). Each II can schedule a visit once per month. We have 20 tables accessible but can't guarantee that the family members will choose all 20 spots available on that particular date and 3-hour time slot. This is why there are some open tables on any given Visitation day. We also cannot mix the units. The proper unit/cohort needs to be selected by the family member when signing up for visit.

### Question17

Per Susan Wade – During Visitation, will there be rapid tests done regardless whether a visitor has a vaccination record or not?

### Answer

Per Associate Penrose – Rapid testing is done on those individuals that cannot show proof of vaccination. However, protocols can be changed at any time.

**Comments/Closing** – Thank you all for attending today's meeting. Have a great day and stay safe.