

Local Family Council COVID-19 Teleconference

Washington Corrections Center

April 09, 2020

1pm

Facilitators: Dean Mason- Associate Superintendent, Norman Goodenough- Health Care Manager, Justin Schlagel-Correctional Program Manager, Gerald Bailey-Correctional Unit Supervisor

Attendees:

Daniel W. White- Superintendent

Jaycie Grisso- Family Council Member

Naomi Samson /Recorder

Joanna Carns- Office of OMBUDS

Amy Grubaugh- Family Council Member

Emijah Smith- Family Member (Guest)

Jackie Racus- Family Council Member

Jen Bullard - CPPC

Paige Perkinson –Family Council Member

Corey Upshaw- Council Member

Rebecca Cabadas- Family Council Member

Norman Goodenough-Health Services Manager

Kaishanna Grace- Family Council Member

Kimberly Ames-Lieutenant

Portia Linear- Family Council Member

Penny Marquart- Assistant to Dean Mason

Michael Green- Associate Superintendent

Dora Williams- Family Council Memeber

Paige Stillwater- Family Council Member

Purpose: To provide information to family and friends of our incarcerated population related to management of the COVID 19 outbreak. Specifically, what steps the Washington Corrections Center and the Department of Corrections as a whole are taking to keep the Incarcerated Individuals safe and healthy.

Note from Superintendent Daniel W. White-

Things are going well here. Everyone is adjusting to Social Distancing norms. Staff are continuously adjusting as direction changes. CI is producing PPE for medical agencies and the department. We have some Non Correctional industry facilities working on masks for Incarcerated Individuals. Sometime next week we should have enough masks for all. Our numbers are starting to go down. We have under 100 floor sleepers.

Dean Mason: We will be running double shifts to ensure there are enough masks for all. R5 unit Supervisor was out checking on everyone. There is a peer representative volunteering to assist the guys on isolation to ensure they have anything they need.

Agenda Items:

African American Individual Concerns – We here at WCC are treating all individuals with fair and equitable care. The data is not clear at this time.

Testing: Tests 19 isolation 22 quarantine conducted 36 negative zero positive. 36 Tests conducted. 7 Pending

Social Distancing: Social Distancing is still a primary focus and is regularly being encouraged and reminded. Dayrooms have been limited to 10 individuals at a time. All education classrooms, medical areas, etc., have been limited to smaller groups at a time and expansion of extra sessions for those areas will be added as necessary. Work areas are being restructured to ensure proper spacing is achieved. Meals are being served in-unit to both achieve social distancing and to increase recreation opportunities for the population. The incarcerated population are encouraging importance of social distancing and they are educating each other of the importance of it. Visual aids are in all areas to assist with this.

Extra Unit and Recreational Activities: We have set up numerous extra activities in the units to help with the anxiety that many are feeling at this time. There are activity packets being sent out currently. Some of the opportunities include:

- ✓ Popcorn machines in TC units on a schedule that provides this treat three to four days a week on a rotating basis.
- ✓ Dayroom time in the reception units.
- ✓ Extra playing cards in all units.
- ✓ Printable Crosswords/Sudoku/Word Search for all incarcerated individuals.
- ✓ Organized pickle ball tournament
- ✓ Creating a plan to open the unit mounds for the TC population.
- ✓ Eligible TC individuals have been issued their incentive gardens.
- ✓ Started night yards early.
- ✓ Movies are available for the general population daily. On a rotating basis on weekends.

We will continue to explore other new opportunities for recreation and activities.

Screening: No visitors or volunteers are being allowed to come in. Staff must complete an enhanced screening process, including temperature checks, prior to the start of their shifts. Due to this process, a significant number of staff are being sent home and cannot return until they are cleared by a medical screening team that is separate from WCC. Our number one priority is to keeping staff and the population safe.

If any of the Incarcerated Individuals show signs of having symptoms, they are screened by medical staff using the following protocol:

Quarantine and Isolation - Incarcerated individuals (patients) will be placed on isolation status when they are presenting influenza or COVID-19 like illness symptoms. Patients who have been exposed (i.e., cellmate of a patient who has influenza-like symptoms) will be placed on quarantine status. Universal precautions will be in effect for all patients. Special housing arrangements will be made for patients on quarantine and isolation status. Droplet precautions will also be in effect, and information will be posted on the red flu supply carts located in R5 and IMU.

All potentially exposed cells are sanitized, and the individuals are provided clean linens. Individuals who do not have their own hygiene items, or run out, will be provided some at no cost. Finally, medical callouts have been increased to every half hour to reduce the number of people in medical.

Transports: All individuals are being temperature checked when picked up from other DOC facilities. All individuals arriving at and departing from WCC are temperature checked at Receiving. Anyone with a temperature receives a secondary evaluation by medical and the isolation/quarantine protocol is followed as necessary.

Round Table Questions:

1. Dora Williams-Are you honoring Ramadan?
 - a. **Answer:** We will honor that the same way as Passover. We will ensure that occurs.
2. Question: Is racial equity being addressed?
 - a. **Answer:** Yes.
3. Mandatory Savings Access is this being addressed?
 - a. **Answer:** Our policy is under review.
4. Amy Grubaugh- Are CO required to wear a mask?
 - a. **Answer:** No, they are not. Some do and some do not. It varies based on needs and personal preference. It is an agency decision.
5. Jackie Racus-We are supposed to wash our masks every day. How is this being addressed?
 - a. **Answer:** There are sinks in every unit, hand wash and hang dry.
6. Jackie Racus-Update, Is there hand sanitizer in the GYM area?
 - a. **Answer:** Not at this time. There is a waterless soap in the gym that is accessible at this time.
7. Dora Williams- An Airway Heights Kiosk message that all staff will be wearing masks and all Incarcerated Individuals will receive them was sent out are you doing this?
 - a. **Answer:** Unaware of this message. Here that is not the direction.
8. Are 1700 masks being made?
 - a. **Answer:** that number is unrelated to the process here.
9. Joanna Carnes- Do people in Isolation have access to phones.
 - a. **Answer:** No. We are not equipped for this.
 - b. Do they have other forms of communication?
Answer: Yes, They have paper and pencil. We try to make them as comfortable as possible.
10. Question: Do they have JPAY access-
 - a. **Answer:** If they are general population- yes (JPAY Player) for in cell use.
11. What is the current Shower situation on isolation/Quarantine?
 - a. **Answer:** Every 7 days they receive a shower and then sterilization protocol is followed for the shower.

12. Dora Williams-Why only 1 every 7 days?
a. **Answer:** This is a statewide guideline to limit exposure as much as possible. Hygiene materials are in cell for “Sponge Bath” type scenario.
13. Joanna-What type of food is being offered?
a. **Answer:** Regular menu options are being served in cell.
b. **Answer:** No difference.
c. **Food Packages** State wide issue- the question was forwarded
14. Food Fundraisers: At this time we are doubling our gardening. We are discussing things to include the mask making ensuring we have provided masks to everyone here, we will have continuing conversations to contribute to the community. People are just not accepting donations currently.
- 15.

Schedule for next call-in- We will schedule it and let you know when it will be. If you have suggestions on when will work, please email Dean Mason or Jenn Bullard.