

Local Family Council COVID-19 Teleconference

Washington Corrections Center

April, 16, 2020

1pm

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

**Attendees:**

*Daniel W. White- Superintendent*

*Jaycie Grisso- Family Council Member*

*Jenn Bullard- CPPC/Recorder*

*Joanna Carns- Office of OMBUDS*

*Amy Grubaugh- Family Council Member*

*Matthias Gyde- Office of OMBUDS*

*Candace Krueger- Family Council Member*

*Jackie Racus- Family Council Member*

*Mike Eby- DOC Family Services Unit*

*Paige Perkinson- Program Specialist 4*

*Jasmine Caldwell- Family Council Member*

*Rebecca Cabadas- Family Council Member*

*Kaishanna Grace- Family Council Member*

*Emijah Smith- Family Member (Guest)*

*Penny Marquart-*

*Q-*

Michael Green-Associate Superintendent

Mike Eby-Community Correctional Specialist

Dr. David- LPL

Dora Williams

Rebecca Cassaway

Norman Goodenough

Chris Welch

Jasmine Bernardes

**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-*

*We appreciate the care and concern you have for your incarcerated loved one. We take great pride in all of the hard work being done to ensure the health, wellness, and safety of everyone living and working at the Washington Corrections Center. We take all of the concerns of the population very seriously and will continue to meet with them to hear their concerns going forward. Personally, I feel safer inside of this correctional environment than I do in any other place in society, save for maybe my own home. We will continue to uphold a high standard for humanity and sanitation every day.*

## **Agenda Items:**

**Sanitation** – Sanitation measures have increased. At WCC, we have increased cleaning protocols to hourly cleanings in populated areas. All units are being provided a germicidal cleaner that is approved by the Health Department as effective for the COVID-19 virus. All incarcerated individuals are also encouraged to keep their cells and areas clean and wipe them down more frequently and wash their hands often. Common areas are being cleaned multiple times a day. We have hired 11 new cleaning positions to clean and deep clean high traffic areas such as the showers, phones, equipment and dayrooms in between uses. Additionally, extra porters (janitors) have been hired to conduct deep cleaning on First Shift (late night/early morning). Posters and information regarding handwashing and COVID 19 protocols are hung up all over the facility and the incarcerated population is encouraged to follow these protocols.

*Governor Inslee's proclamation was released late last night and spoke to the rapid release plan. Once we receive the official information we will communicate out more information.*

*Face covering kits should be arriving today.*

*Staff are under direction to wear face covering while at work at all times.*

*Maintenance is currently working on adding more protections to assist with social distancing by installing shields and moving phones to enable access to phones and expediting repair of inoperable phones.*

**Testing:** No incarcerated individuals or staff have tested positive for COVID 19 at WCC.

**Social Distancing:** Social Distancing is 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.

**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 many new ideas and changes happening every day. 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 will be made available on a rotating basis

These activities will expand as soon possible. As stated, 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. Last week you mentioned hand sanitizer?
  - a. **Answer: We are currently in the process of installing dispensers at this time in all living units, day rooms and other key locations.**
2. Testing updates are
  - a. **Answer: 48 total- 0 are negative and 4 are still pending test results.**
3. Amy- last week talked about facility making masks and. Thank you for going above and beyond?
  - a. **Answer: Now it has changed to receiving kits made by CI. It is faster this way. What unit does your loved one live in –CEDAR**
4. Candice- Rumor there is going to be a lock down and lunch will serve in cell?

- a. No that is fake news. We have been serving meals in unit for some time to add social distancing.
- 5. Jasmine- No questions
- 6. Keshanna-No questions
- 7. Rebecca Cassaway- What about other facilities do these calls like you?
  - a. **Answer:** I would encourage you to reach out to their local family council I can't speak to other facilities practices, But I can tell you we are required to have a local family counsel.
- 8. Jackie- My husband has others giving me questions to ask.
  - a. Question: Are there dividers between phones?
    - 1. **Answer:** Yes
- 9. Will there be dividers going between urinals?
  - Answer:** We are looking at that working through that issue right now.
- 10. Jackie- Is there anything an II can do if cellmate is not respecting their space?
  - a. **Answer:** If they are not able to work it out, contact the unit SGT or Supervisor.
- 11. Jackie- Savings, has policy changed so that if a bill is sent in can people send out money to pay it?
  - a. **Yes.**
- 12. Williams- No questions
- 13. Joanna Carnes- Isolation Unit questions-
  - a. What are the conditions of confinement-bathing situation?
    - 1. (1 shower every 7 days) they are provided personal hygiene items and cleaners for cell.
    - 2. Do II have access to phones?
      - a. **Answer:** We have been advised it is a significant health concern to give them phone access.
- 14. Do they have wash basins?
  - a. **Answer:** They have a sink so it is dual purpose.
- 15. Cleaning supply access?
  - a. **Answer: Yes,**
- 16. Do they have their property?
  - a. **Answer: Yes,** if they came from the general population.
- 17. Are they able to order commissary?
  - a. **Yes,** It is a modified list due to sanitary concerns.
- 18. Maintenance, Is everything is working and well maintained?
  - a. **Yes,** Maintenance is on it every day. Safety concerns are addressed immediately.
- 19. Matias- alcohol sanitizers, Do you have numbers?
  - a. **Answer:** 75 locations to include day rooms, living units and other key locations.
- 20. Jackie-On the Airway Heights call they said there is a staff and they monitor masks, do you have one person assigned to do this?
  - a. **Answer:** We are taking the team approach and if in fact someone does not have one on we politely ask them to put one on, we have not had any issues with this.

21. My love one needs me to fill out a medical form so if he gets ill I can call in and check on him. He said I had to sign it and I had to send it to him.
  - a. **Answer given by Norm Goodenough:**
    1. **Answer:** Release of information. This must be done before you call in. The II needs to create a password for you to use when you call in as verifications. **Will this take weeks?** No
22. Rebecca Johnson: Can other facilities do these calls too?
  - a. **Answer:** I know all of us are instructed to have a counsel. Please email me and I will forward your request
23. Dan- Does anyone have any agenda items for next week? Are we meeting your expectations?

**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.**