

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: WCC

Date and Time: 9/24/2020, 1300

Attendees

Justin Schlagel- Correctional Program Manager-Facilitator

Dean Mason – Associate Superintendent

Penny Marquart- AA3 to Associate Mason -Recorder

Norm Goodenough- Health Services Manager

Mike Eby –Community Correctional Specialist

Matthias Gyde- Assistant Ombuds

Paige Perkinson – Program Specialist

Portia Linear- Statewide Rep

Kaishanna Saunders- Local Family Counsel Secretary

Jasmine Bernardez

Candace Krueger

Jacki Racus

Amy Grubaugh

Wendy Schindler

Emijah Smith

Weekly Update

1933 Tests

8 Positive / 1770 Negative

2 Inconclusive

137 pending

Pre-Submitted Questions

Racus: 1. Can we please get clarification on the site wide staff Covid testing that is starting September 28th? My husband had a staff member tell him today that staff were told not to worry about it, that it takes 3-5 days for the results to come back and as long as they get the swab touched to the end of their nose it was good enough. This is very concerning on multiple levels.

Answer: CPM Schlagel –The testing is a swab to each nasal cavity, placed into a container. The test results take approximately 2-3 days. This will be a weekly testing.

2. There have been work orders submitted to get the units more cribbage and checker/chess boards, but the offenders are being told it has to be approved by someone in the gym area and they haven't been approved. Can they be approved so the offenders can get these items? I know F unit only has 1 cribbage board for the whole unit.

Answer: CPM Schlagel – I have not heard anything on this. I will look into it.

3. What is the plan for outdoor rec as it gets darker? For offenders that work during the day, it's hard for them to get out and going to the gym is hard. They aren't limiting how many offenders are allowed at the time and it is overcrowded along with a lot of the equipment being shut down for use because of COVID concerns.

Answer: CPM Schlagel – We are maintaining max yard capacity. We are installing more lights in the yard. And we are looking at expanding the recreation schedule for the darker months.

Racus: My loved one told me that a few nights ago they were served food trays that had items that had expire dates from a year ago! He didn't realize he had eaten expired vegetables until after the fact, then the morning after had an upset stomach.

My question is, why is expired food especially that long ago being given to inmates?

Other question is, who is responsible for checking these items before serving them to ensure they are good?

Can this be looked into so that it is not an ongoing issue in the future?

Any information on this would be greatly appreciated!

Answer: CPM Schlagel –I verified with CI. The date on the packaging is the manufactured date and not an expiration date. We keep a stockpile of food, just in case we are cut off from shipments. These meals are kept frozen and are shelf stable for years frozen. We need to rotate them out and we do this by serving them. CI checks the date.

After the meeting, additional answer: Correctional Industries Manager Worf

The frozen meal served doesn't have per say an expiration date, rather a manufactured date. Meals that are produced, then flash frozen have an extended shelf stable life making them edible indefinitely, when stored under a frozen state.

WCC CI Food Service is responsible for ensuring all meals served are brought to the appropriate quality and temperature before they are served to the population.

WCC CI Food Service is committed to serving quality product for each meal, we hold our staff to the highest standards when preparing the service of food to the incarcerated population.

Question 1

Grubaugh: At the Statewide Council meeting, they spoke about visiting. Do you have a start-up date or when we can sign up?

Answer: CPM Justin Schlagel – We don't have any additional information. I know there is a group working on this.

Additional Answer: Program Specialist Perkinson –I met with HQ and it looks like they will have an online schedule where you will pick a time slot. If you need to cancel, you would respond to whomever sends you the confirmation.

We are working on getting the visiting rooms set up with barriers. We have a goal of having visiting ready by the holidays.

Grubaugh- Are you doing this as a whole?

Program Specialist Perkinson – Yes.

Grubaugh- Will visiting change with Social Distancing? Will the visiting rotation change the schedule?

Answer: CPM Justin Schlagel – We are not sure how this will play out or how it will affect days and times.

Grubaugh – Is there a place that families with children can give feedback?

CPM Justin Schlagel – You can send an email to Penny and she will forward your questions to Paige.

Program Specialist Perkinson- We are working on ways to incorporate children.

Linear: The State wide DOC group, did not include us in the Phase in for visiting. Could you include families in the Phase in? And when we open up, will visiting be in Phase two?

Program Specialist Perkinson- Email Penny with any questions. And she will send them to me. Yes, visiting will be in Phase two.

Grubaugh – Will children under 18 be able to visit?

Program Specialist Perkinson –Children are in the 2nd Phase. The website is being updated with the current information. We are trying to prioritize visiting.

After the meeting, Program Specialist Perkinson was able to gather some information.

We aren't going to distribute out the visitation phasing documents until they go live on the website, which should be very soon!

But I can clarify this for the individuals on your LFC.

Visitation Phase 1: Video visit only (current phase)

Visitation Phase 2: 2 adults 18+ per incarcerated, 1 hour visits, with a clear barrier to prevent any droplets being spread.

Visitation Phase 3: 2 adults 18+ and 1 child 8+ per incarcerated.

Again to clarify, the Corrections Safe Start has visitation resuming in phase 3, and that is no longer accurate. DOC Leadership has prioritized the opening of visitation services in a modified capacity and as a result has created a new phasing implementation called Safe Start Visitation. This will be separate from the Safe Start Corrections phasing. HQ is working on creating the webpage currently and we hope to have the information online shortly for reference, and will also be updating the Safe Start Corrections diagram to reflect this change.

Question 2

Grubaugh – I hear there is a 15% cut to DOC. How will that affect Shelton?

Answer: CPM Justin Schlagel –We are not sure about how this will affect Shelton. . As soon as we know more, we will let you know.

Comments/Closing

Reminder: Next COVID update teleconference will be October 1st. You can pre-submit questions to Penny Marquart.

Next LFC meeting is tentatively set for October 22nd.