

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: WCC Shelton

Date and Time: 01/14/2021 1pm

Attendees

Justin Schlagel – Corrections Program Manager
Jennifer Bullard – Community Partnership Program Coordinator
Penny Marquart – AA3 to Associate Dean Mason
Mike Eby – Community Correctional Specialist
Matthias Gyde – Assistant Ombuds
Paige Perkinson – Program Specialist
Casey Carlson – Health Services Manager
Danna Lundberg – Correctional Unit Supervisor-R6 G & H
Heidi Sheridan – Correctional Unit Supervisor-Evergreen Hall
Gerald Bailey – Correctional Unit Supervisor-Cedar Hall
Kaishanna Saunders – Secretary
Jacki Racus – Co-Chair
Jasmine Bernardez
Candace Krueger
Wendy Schindler
Helen Russell

Weekly Update at the time of the call.

- 189 Isolation
- 131 Active
- 829 Quarantine
- 21 Intake separation
- 724 Recovered
- 478 Pending Tests
- 114 Floor Sleepers
- 4 Positive
- 80 Floor Sleepers

CPM Schlagel opens

Cedar and Evergreen are in recovery. They are able to go to work. We have sent out communications that recreation is coming. We hope we can do this by tomorrow. I have a schedule ready, it is currently in ICP for review.

We had a discussion about foyer use. We have been instructed by medical for people to stay in pods/co-hort. We are working on improving the process while they are at work to reduce the exposure while working. We try to keep them in small groups. We are trying Recreation by tier, Foyer by tier. We are working on a schedule.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Question 1

Racus: When I talked to my husband this afternoon and relayed the information that we were given during today's meeting, a question that came up regarding the schedule that is being created for the offenders to have access to the foyer for ice, kiosk, etc. When the offenders that are fortunate enough to be able to be working come back to their unit, their time for foyer access is scheduled while they were at work. This means they have no access to ice or the kiosk Monday - Friday because of work. Can the schedule be adjusted so the workers have access to the foyer either when they get back from work or after count has been completed? They have been working with each other all day, so cross contamination should not be an issue for them to be out in the foyer at the same time.

Answer Bailey

We are working on a new schedule to address this issue. However in Cedar, they have been given the opportunity to come out and do these things.

Question 2

Racus: 1 Cedar Unit is down to one counselor, Ms. Bryan. My husband was told yesterday by her that offender's emails that were previously assigned to Counselor Boykin are not being forwarded to her. We were told quite a while back in one of the LFC meetings that when an offender in Cedar unit KIOSK their counselor, if it was for Counselor Boykin it would automatically be forwarded to Counselor Bryan until someone else was put in the position or Counselor Boykin returned. Ms. Bryan did tell him that offenders could send her a paper kite or go through CUS Bailey, but how are they supposed to know that? Can we please get some sort of clarification or get the system fixed so offender's emails go to the correct Counselor?

Answer: CPM Schlagel- Boykin was still assigned. Those messages have reverted to Bryan, who is also in Cedar.

Additional Answer; CUS Bailey- the Kiosk can't send the messages to unassigned counselor. Since Boykin was still in that position (in OMNI) she was still his assigned counselor. Now that she has left that position they are all assigned to Bryan and she will get the messages. We are not down to 1 counselor we have 2 pending a 3rd. This message was sent to all of CC2 Boykins case load by CC3 Bryan and read by MR Racus on 9/21/2021. They were aware of alternative methods to see a counselor and that Boykin was not here. The I/I's also have direct messaging to the Unit SGT and me. MR. Racus is fully aware how to get in contact with any unit staff and does so on a regular basis. His questions that were urgent were answered by CC3 Bryan on KIOSK on 11/20/20.

2. Mr. Green told an offender working in the kitchen he knew nothing about the foyer being locked down for offenders in Cedar Unit and that it must be something that either the SGT or CUS has implemented. Can we please get some sort of clarification? Offenders would like to know why it's ok to be mixed together to work but can't move around the foyer together to get ice, use the Kiosk, etc.

Answer: CPM Schlagel – It was not at the direction of the CUS. It was a medical decision to mix as little as possible.

3. We were told at last week's meeting that a schedule was close to completion for offenders to get yard. They still haven't gotten yard and the COVID handout that was posted/given to offenders' states that offenders in quarantine will continue to have access to phones, mail, showers and yard. Offenders would like to know when they will get yard and clarification on why they haven't been receiving yard.

Answer: CPM Schlagel – We have a schedule. We are waiting for approval.

4. If staff opts out of getting the COVID vaccine, are they going to be assigned job duties away from offenders that can't get the vaccine because of medical or religious reasons? It doesn't seem fair that offenders are being put at risk because a staff member chooses to not get the vaccine. It could start a whole new outbreak.

Answer: CPM Schlagel - We cannot mandate everyone to get the vaccine. We will encourage our staff to.

Question 3

Krueger: 1. when are the guys from R6 that were moved to Evergreen moving back to R6? They were told this was a temporary.

Answer: CPM Schlagel- Yes, as soon as they complete their quarantine, we want to get them back to their units.

2. How is CI allowed to do 20 dollar incentive pay, while DOC workers do not receive any incentive pay on top of their wages?

Answer: CPM Schlagel – CI Pay schedule is different than DOC. Completely different structure. This is a CI issue.

Additional Questions

Question 1

Saunders: Video Visit, my husband was 15 minutes late because the C O's were not listening to him. He could not get out to go to his visit. He was pressing the button and he was ignored. Time was 8pm Monday.

Answer: CPM Schlagel – I would like to look into this. Once you got in, how was the call?

Saunders answers: it was glitchy for about 2 mins. But the quality was pretty good.

Question 2

Racus: Clarification on yard schedule; Can we be confident tell our loved ones that yard will be tomorrow?

Answer: CPM Schlagel – We hope to get it started in the morning. The plan is finalized, it just needs approval. I will do my best, but I can't promise. I can only imagine the frustration levels.

Question 3

Racus: Foyer Schedule and commissary schedule were at the same time.

Answer: CPM Schlagel – We can work on adjustments with commissary schedule. Next week it will be out back. That should help.

Question 4

Krueger: R6 Certification. Will they be move back?

Answer: CPM Schlagel – Yes that was never meant to be a permanent move. We just have to wait for the tests to come back. They will all have to test negative.

Question 5

Russell: Loved one in isolation will he go back to Cedar?

Answer: CPM Schlagel- yes, once in recovery status, they will go back to Cedar. I will look into this and get back to you.

Comments/Closing:

Next LFC COVID update Teleconference will be January 21st. Next LFC Bi-monthly will be February 25th.
