

Local Family Council COVID 19 Teleconference

Washington Correction Center for Women

May 15, 2020

Facilitator: Jo Wofford, Superintendent

Attendance:

Family Representatives: Jason Rice, Laurie Dawson, Cindy Robinson, Susan Sherman, Becky Overliln

WCCW Representatives: Superintendent Jo Wofford, CPPC, Associates Swain and Chandler, CPM Vaaia Gaines, Family Services-HQ Caroline Melhuish, Pam O’Neil, OCO Jessica Means

Purpose – to get information related to the COVID 19 outbreak out to the families to help them understand the steps being taken by DOC to keep the Incarcerated Individuals safe and healthy.

Testing – We are happy to still report that we have had 0 testing positive for COVID for staff and incarcerated and our ISO numbers are continuing to go down.

Social Distancing – Social Distancing is still being encouraged, reminded and enforced. Our numbers are down because of this. Kudos to everyone!

Activities – Religious activities are taking place for each unit a pod at a time, Friday through Sunday using contracted service providers; and no volunteers. Incarcerated Individuals are also working in various capacities.

Screenings – No visitors or volunteers are being allowed to come in. Staff is being screened at before the start of their shifts. We currently don’t know when this will be reestablished, but conversations are taking place at the HQ level.

Population Concerns - Management have been making daily rounds to listen to the incarcerated individual’s concerns as well as meet with the Tier Reps weekly.

Questions from Council Members

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>
DATA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current facility numbers? 747• Transfers in / out? 110 total, 54 Rapid Reentry, 9 left today (63) and the rest were Comm. (47)• Numbers in isolation/quarantine? 0 in quarantine and 5 in isolation• Testing done? 0 positive tests for covid-19 and 2nd tests are no being provided by medical pregnant women facility wide? Where are they housed? We have 6 pregnant women in the facility• Kudos from the Superintendent to transport, regional transport, and CCO’s for helping facilitate releases. Also, the counselors, CUS’s and the CPM have had to accelerate the release process and have done so successfully, to which she is grateful. Her thoughts and prayers go out to those who

	<p>have released in that they will remain successful.</p>
HEALTH/MEDICAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any changes in medical/mental health delivery? We still have 0 positive tests in the facility. A strike team is forming to address transport and prioritizing medical appointments that may have been postponed. Any appointments for lifesaving measures or emergencies had not been affected. Those appointments have continued as determined by medical providers on the outside. If women test positive while in Work Release are they revoked to WCCW? We haven't had any return positive at this time. If there is a positive return they will be isolated. And if so, how many are there? 0 Are women quarantining in a separate area or building? Do they share bathrooms, kiosks, phones with women not quarantining? I/I have been housed separately and are using separate restrooms and equipment than the general population.
FACILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there an update on the fence? Fence work will continue, although we are not overpopulated at this time. Any update on the Kiosks and their repair/maintenance? The kiosks are working well. We've had some power bumps in the past couple of days that have caused some issues with J-Pay, but we have a work order in to get that taken care of. Hearing some concerns from the Hill that for women still working (especially at CI) their "out time" conflicts with their work schedule which reduces their ability to use phones and be out in the yard. With social distancing, getting everyone on the MSC campus yard time has been challenging. The CUS and Counselors are working to provide scheduled time for yard time, possibly in the evenings.
Reentry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many women? 110 total have released. Jason Rice asked about a rumor that count times may be adjusted or changed (6am to 10am) and the concern was that the additional time needed

	<p>for 10 am count will take away from work time and impact their hours worked.</p> <p>Superintendent Wofford explained that there has not been a change to the count process at this time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laurie Dawson stated that she is grateful; to community and mental health. She has received positive feedback for mental health counselors. <p>Laurie asked if Federal mom’s received a contact phone number for additional resources to help them with release questions. Superintendent Wofford explained that the Governors proclamation ends as of midnight tonight and there will be no additional releases.</p>
<p>PROGRAMMING/NUTRITION:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on gardens? Horticulture students are continuing to work. They are practicing social distancing, and wearing face coverings. Please discuss the recent directives related to the need to wear Khaki uniforms more. Is there an update or clarification on this - we still firmly Believe this is not the right time to implement this kind of policy. Budget wise, we are limited in what we can do right now. However, C.I. is working to make design adjustments to the pants. We have a pattern maker involved in the process who has been making modifications. Staff have tried them on, as well, including the superintendent. As we work through the process, we plan to involve some of the women, as well to get their feedback. The superintendent stated that our goal is to get the women used to getting up in the morning and dressing for work, as they will have to do that as they release and transition to life outside of the facility. Susan Sherman asked about Irons, stating that many of the women do not have access to Irons, specifically TEC, and she has seen them and they look awful. A question was asked regarding polo shirts for work. The superintendent stated that polos shirts would be the most comfortable option. She explained that she has tried on the khaki work shirts and they were not designed for females and modifications will need to be made.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jason Rice asked about the memo that had gone out, stating that the uniforms will be enforced June 1st, 2020 and is that still in place due to the design adjustments taking place. Superintendent explained that the original memo had be rescinded.
<p>RECOVERY/RE-OPEN:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the Governor begins phased-in re-opening of the state, and recognizing that you are still focused on the response, what plans are you considering related to normalizing operations? Any updates you can share? We are following the Governors recommendations and will be moving in an Enterprise wide delivery statewide. In regard to education, we have been conversing with other programming. Education modifications have been made to allow the women to continue their studies. They're able to study remotely. • <i>Communication - as the required restrictions continue, we know the women are becoming bored and anxiety is increasing - even with all you've been doing to try and keep them occupied. If there was a way to communicate what planning is happening (or even just that planning is happening) to normalize - that could help reduce their anxiety. Even better would be to include Tier Reps or Women's Village in some of that planning. Unit teams meet with the Tier Reps daily, and senior managers are meeting with them Bi-weekly to keep communication open and address concerns.</i>

CONCLUSION:

In closing, thank you for being there for your loved ones. We will meet again next Friday, May 22nd at noon, you can send questions to Babs Roberts prior to the meeting. As always, please feel free to contact Jo with any questions/concerns.