

# WCCW Local Family Council COVID 19 Teleconference Notes

May 29, 2020

**Facilitator:**

Jo Wofford, Superintendent

**Attendance:**

**Family Representatives:** Jason Rice, Renee Hafzalla, Cindy Robinson, Paul Gillespie, Susan Sherman, Becky Overlin

**WCCW Representatives:** Superintendent Jo Wofford, CPPC Janice Zimmerman, Associate Chandler, CPM Vaaia Gaines, Health Services Manager 1 Kate Morisette, Family Services-HQ Bill Copeland, Captain Rodney Nordbye, Administrative Assistant 4 Melissa Johnson, Paige Perkinson Office of the Secretary - Engagement & Outreach.

**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 has zero.

**Social Distancing**

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

**Activities**

All events are still cancelled until we re-open and figure out what our new normal will be like. Ms. Zimmerman has been brainstorming fun activities for the incarcerated population. We have already given extra crafting supplies and extra time outside when the weather is nice. If the Family Council has some ideas of fun things to do here at the facility to please email her or call her. Please send your recommendations to [jmzimmerman@doc1.wa.gov](mailto:jmzimmerman@doc1.wa.gov) or call her at 253-4653.

**Screenings**

No visitors or volunteers are being allowed to come in. We are maintaining social distancing and everyone (staff and incarcerated individuals) are wearing masks appropriately. Only essential staff are being allowed in after passing a screening process. This has helped us maintain a healthy population.

**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>
<b>DATA</b>	<p>Current facility numbers? 761 and 2 babies            Transfers in / out? 2 coming in today            Numbers in isolation/quarantine? 0/0            Testing done? 0            Pregnant women facility wide? 6            Where are they housed? They are housed according to their custody levels.</p> <p>Note: Commutation and Rapid Release has ended.</p>
<b>FACILITY</b>	<p>The fence project is still underway due to the delay with our current state of emergency-undetermined date at this time.</p> <p>Given the large and growing COVID crisis in Yakima County, is DOC and WCCW discussing the transfer of women out of the Yakima county jail and back to WCCW? The women will come back as their program ends.</p>
<b>HEALTH/MEDICAL</b>	<p>Any updates on medical issues in the facility - COVID related or otherwise? No new updates (0 in isolation, 0 in quarantine) No Covid cases for incarcerated population or staff to date. More availability is opening up for outside provider allowing us to schedule and complete offsite appointments and procedures. Outside clinics are requiring a Covid test within 72 hours of procedure and patient quarantined for that period before arrival.</p> <p>Any changes in medical/mental health delivery? No changes to delivery at this time.</p> <p>Rumors: Women in isolation are only allowed one shower per week? Is this true and if so can you provide the policy related to this? Firstly, I am happy to report that there is no one on ISO right now. However this is true for ISO to minimize cross contamination, as per the CDC guidelines. Those that are housed there are given extra hygiene items.</p>
<b>PROGRAMMING/NUTRITION:</b>	<p>TCC is creating a virtual graduation for summer that will be hosted on our main website – it’s a video reel (think power point 3.0) that will include a slide for all graduates to include name, degree program, a personal quote, and a photo.</p> <p>TCC has issued laptops to women who are enrolled in web development. Issuing laptops for those enrolled in</p>

	<p>other classes is also being looked at.</p> <p>Summer quarter will begin on July 9<sup>th</sup>. The classes will be a hybrid of what they once were – 2 days in the classroom with 9 students to maintain social distancing.</p> <p>FEPPS has been issuing paper study material, there is discussion with Superintendent Wofford and FEPPS about MP3 players for English lessons. FEPPS will be bringing me 2 models next week for us to run through WCCW’s Security Advisory Committee.</p> <p>As we hear more about active COVID cases at AHCC and CRCC, we’re concerned that food distribution may be interrupted. Can you provide updates on contingency planning happening to ensure meals continue to come to the facility? WCCW purchases food from a variety of sources to include Correctional Industries, US Foods, Produce vendors, as well as dairy vendors. At this time, there is no significant concern regarding the food supply chain due to the short food manufacturing shut down at Coyote Ridge Corrections Center. Correctional Industries has maintained higher than normal levels of inventory to mitigate any disruption to the manufacturing process.</p> <p>Is there any update on gardens? No. SPP and Horticulture have been actively working around the facility to expand our gardens. We have a larger number of individuals working in the gardens</p> <p>Thank you for the pause on implementing the need to wear Khaki’s. Can we discuss plans to have the women’s input in the development of patterns that are designed for women? The plan was to have a selected few to have their input. This project has been rescinded until further notice.</p>
<p><b>RECOVERY/RE-OPEN:</b></p>	<p>We continue to be cautious moving towards a new normal – we want to ensure everyone remains healthy. WCCW is actively working on plans as to what our new normal will look like.</p>
<p><b>REENTRY</b></p>	<p>How many women have released thus far?110</p> <p>We understand that women releasing from Mission Creek to Work Release are sent there through WCCW receiving - can you help us understand the need for this? We have always done business this way and are happy to report that we have had zero cases of COVID from here or Mission Creek.</p>

## **Conclusion**

In closing, thank you for being there for your loved ones. We will meet again next Friday, June 5th 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.