

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: WA Corrections Center for Women

Date and Time: 6/26/2020, 12:00PM

Attendees

- ASO Paula Chandler, ASP Bill Swain, CPM Vaaia Gaines, Captain Nordbye, Security Specialist Jennifer Grabil and Recorder Pam O'Neil Name
- Jason Rice, Babs Roberts, Susan Sherman, Caroline Melhuish (Family Services)

Weekly Update

ASO Chandler welcomes everybody and explained that we did not receive questions for this week, but that we'll try to answer any issues that they may have.

- Current facility numbers? 755 and 2 babies
- Numbers in isolation/quarantine? 4 in quarantine and 5 in isolation
- Testing done? 0 positive tests for covid-19 to date. Testing is given if someone presents with symptoms.
- Pregnant women facility wide? Where are they housed? We have 8 pregnant women in the facility.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Question 1

Union Supply – any updates regarding vendor approval? Who is the contact person at HQ?

Answer

- ASP Swain responded – That discussion is still ongoing, however, the decision will be made statewide and come from headquarters. The contact person is Tracy Schneider.

Question 2

School/Programming – Are we any closer to returning to the classroom and getting back to normal?

Answer

- ASP Swain responded – We have received a proposal for T.C.C. It has been reviewed, but has not been approved yet. The proposal includes reduced class size, social distancing and face coverings/masks. CPM Gaines added that we have a Safe Start meeting scheduled to further discuss what that will look like and when it can be implemented. T.C. has resumed some classes with reduced class size, social distancing, etc.

Additional Questions

Question 1

(Babs Roberts) For the people that are on Isolation, they're only getting 1 shower a week; understanding that they do have access to soap and water. However the concern is that females have other hygiene issues and 1 shower a week is not very gender responsive. I want it noted/documentated that this needs further discussion?

Answer

- ASO Chandler – Our recorder is writing that down as we speak.

Question 2

(Jason Rice) Rumor Is it true that the Yakima I/I have returned and that there are 150 offenders coming to our institution from Yakima County?

Answer

- ASO Chandler – Our I/I that were housed in Yakima have returned to our facility because our contract with YCJ has expired. We do not have and will not be receiving 150 additional I/I to our facility.

Comments/Closing

- (Babs Roberts) My daughter said that her supervisor told them that because of the Furlough, C.I. is shutting down for four weeks. Is this true? ASO Chandler – Glen Davis is our C.I. representative and he's not here today to answer that. We'll have to look into it because I don't know.
- (Susan Sherman) Regarding the Chapel, my daughter told me that the Chapel is closed and being used for isolation. Can you confirm that or explain? ASP Swain – We were tasked by headquarters to create a Regional Care Facility (RCF). It's basically a hospital to care for sick people (Covid-19), or people recovering until they're well. Since we're the Women's Facility in the state, we have to have it here. The Chapel was chosen as the location to house I/I if needed. Chapel and Religious activities have been moved to the Visit Room temporarily.

ASO Chandler closes the meeting with a note that next Friday, July 3rd is a holiday and we will need to reschedule our Family Council meeting. We will get that information out to you all soon. Thank you to everyone for calling in to address the issues of your loved ones. Take Care.