

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: Washington Corrections Center for Women

Date and Time: 08/12/2020, 12:00PM

Attendees

- Paul Gillespie, Susan Sherman, Cindy Robinson, Janet Moriarty
- Associates Chandler & Swain, Captain Nordbye, CPM Gaines, PIO Johnson, Family Svcs. Melhuish, CPPC Zimmerman, OCO Schrader

Weekly Update

- Data
 - Current facility numbers, n and babies? 760, 4 moms & 3 babies
 - Are any of these women in units that are quarantined or locked down? No
 - How many are federal prisoners? 0
- Health/Medical
 - Numbers in isolation/quarantine? 2 ISO 1 Quarantine
 - Which units have women in quarantine? 1 in CCU under quarantine, 2 in SEG under ISO
 - Numbers tested? 1

Pre-Submitted Questions

Question 1

We would like clarity on the strip search issue. We've had a number of responses to this question that have consistently been that NO strip searches are happening at WCCW. Recently we were told they are happening for workers going into and out of Z building.

Answer

- There are circumstances in which we will still need to strip search an incarcerated individual, as our body scanner does not lend itself to every situation.
- DOC policy still requires that when an individual moves into a secure housing unit they must be strip searched. When there is a fight within the facility, they are searched and changed into different clothing to keep everyone safe. Other reasons include a person entering or leaving a secure housing unit for work, women who go out on medical/dental trips.
- Our body scanner is used for all other searches, to include incoming transports, outside work crews, before medical transports and all kitchen workers.

Additional Questions

Question 1

How are we doing on the recovering/re-open?

Answer

- ASP Swain reported that he has received safe start corrections step-by-step approach proposals from the all program areas and will be scheduling a meeting with the stakeholders of these programs to discuss.

Question 2

Those incarcerated individuals working in Z building. Do they have the option to opt out of doing that job?

Answer

- Yes, as people request, we are taking them out of the job and are given the opportunity to work somewhere else.
- We fill positions by a referral list.

Question 3

Can you give us an overview of what serial testing is and how it is happening here at WCCW?

Answer

- All staff will be tested to detect active infection. To help prevent ongoing transmission at the facility moving forward, staff testing will be repeated every seven days until further notice. This is known as serial testing.

Comments/Closing

- Janet M said to the group that she is HUGELY grateful to WCCW in keeping this virus locked down.
- Janice Zimmerman reminded the group that next Friday, the 21st of August is the Back to School backpack brigade. Family members will be able to pick up backpacks for age appropriate children between the hours of 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. Also, if you have any ideas about future events, please email her and let her know about them.
- The quarterly meeting set for tomorrow the 13th of August will be rescheduled.