

# Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

## Call Details

**Facility: WSP / Teleconference**

**Date and Time:** 1/19/2021, 1:00PM

## Attendees

- Associate Supt. Steve Barker, Sgt. Rocky Beal, AA3 Carrie Meyer, SFC Rep Wendy Dubinsky, Hattie Wolf, Dean Dubinsky, OCO Caitlyn Roberts, Anna Ivanov, Steve Kugler, Loretta Pedersen, Carolyn Melhuish, Lonnie Roberts & CUS Matson

## Weekly Update

Please provide the most up-to-date stats:

*The website numbers are accurate.*

## Quarantine

Echo West

Golf East

IMU-N C & D Mods

Unit-10 A&B Tiers

William Unit (B-Side Only)

Unit-6

## Isolation

Echo East

Fox

Golf-West

IMU-N A & B Mods

SC Gym (Use for Post Positives currently empty)

## Submitted Questions

1. A member would like to know why WSP isn't doing more to temporarily relocate the small quantity of men on William Unit B side who continue to test negative so that the majority (most of whom have already had COVID and recovered) can end their now more than two months of cell confinement. This situation is unacceptable.
  - This question is a clinical question of which the medical staff at HQ Prisons/Health Services Command have final say on. The WSP ICP is doing all that it can to transition William Unit B-side back to normal operations. The short answer is that there are not quarantine beds available to move them to. As it stands at the moment, all of the guys in William Unit B-Side who have so far not tested positive will be retested this week. Once they have a second negative test without a positive amongst the group. William Unit A-Side will be moved back to a more normal movement schedule.
  - WSP is trying to transition B side back. 18 men are testing today. Due to outbreaks in the EC, beds are being used.

2. Similar to the above question. What is the rationale for not testing the men who tested positive months ago and did not develop symptoms? Maybe not with the same frequency as the men who haven't had COVID, but on some type of schedule?
  - Again, this is a clinical/medical question. Once a person tests positive, they are treated as a post-positive and unless they actually develop symptoms, they are not tested.
  
3. Does the higher rate of transmission of some new strains suggest a need for continued follow-up for these men?
  - This another clinical question that is being evaluated and discussed at the HQ level.
  
4. Is WSP leadership aware that men who were on quarantine in William A side for around two months are now reporting that they are getting blisters on their feet from the mere act of walking around now that they are being let out of their cells more because of having been cooped up so long and not walking very much? Is DOC tracking these kinds of consequences of its quarantine methods?
  - No, WSP Leadership has not received any reports of this nature. This would actually be a medical issue for each individual and would be between them and their medical provider. As these are medical issues between each individual and their provider, DOC would not be tracking them.

WSP Management, or DOC as a whole asking the questions or will they of; What went right? What went wrong? What could we change?

- WSP does a CIR (Critical Incident Review after any incident. This won't be any different. This has been a learning experience for us as well. Along the way we have learned several things. Some things we did right and some things that we can do better next time.
5. We were told at previous meetings that the point of disrupting celly assignments for those on William and Victor who had tested positive was to create all-post-positive sides of the units so that those sides could be opened up sooner and returned to normal operations. This happened on Victor but did not happen on William. On the contrary, on William the side that was supposed to open up sooner (the side with all the post-positive guys) still remains quarantined. Is WSP leadership aware that when it announces plans and then fails to follow through on them, especially in a way that seems so haphazard and illogical, it gives the public the impression of a disorganized administration that cannot follow through on the plans it puts in place? Moreover, it gives the impression of an administration that is unwilling to clean up the failed pieces of aborted plans that were only carried out halfway.

- WSP has not had a changed in plans for how William Unit is to be transitioned. B-Side of the unit is still on quarantine until everyone is either post-positive or has two negative tests without another positive test amongst the group. This plan NEVER changed. They have got to get a double negative.

CUS Matson, how do you keep conversations going with the inmates?

- I have always kept an open-door policy with men in my unit. We continue to meet monthly, or more if needed, with the OCL's. They are also able to request a meeting, kite me or file a grievance. Pretty open dialogue.

William A Side. Are they back to work?

- Tomorrow.

We had a video visit over the weekend. It was a good video but not good sound.

- I will reach out to Keith DeFlicht regarding this. They are trying to iron out a lot of issues right now.

Are you still having the OCL Meetings? Do you take their questions and do something about them or just check them off the list?

- No, I am not but I keep an open-door policy and I have still had meetings with them individually. I can't respond for everyone but I believe in doing the best I can and getting the answers they are looking for otherwise it will come back to me again.

How are vaccines going? Available for incarcerated yet?

- Good. No, not yet but we continue to receive more.

Is there an update on comfort items?

- No. Not at this time.
- Hattie added that the JPay art contest during the holiday went very well and was well received by a lot of inmates. Some really appreciate the color crayons.
- The Superintendent is trying to choose a couple different items so that everyone should be happy with at least one or maybe all of the items given.