

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: WSP / Teleconference

Date and Time: 3/9/2021, 1:00PM

Attendees

- Associate Superintendent Steve Barker, AA3 Carrie Meyer, Sgt. Rocky Beal, Acting Chair Wendy Dubinsky, Dean Dubinsky, DOC Paige Perkinson, Secretary Hattie Wolf, Anna Ivanov, Co-Chair Tina Wright, Bill Copland, Stella Spracklin

Weekly Update

Please provide the most up-to-date stats:

The website numbers are accurate. WSP is no longer in outbreak status.

We have no cases. Things are back to a new normal. The Incident Command Post (ICP) is now closed.

Submitted Questions

Pre-COVID visiting was a priority for incarcerated individuals and they were allowed to take an excused absence from work to visit with loved ones. Why have video visits, the only way to visit during COVID, been cancelled during work hours? That may be the only time incarcerated and their loved ones can visit. Or, the only time video visit time slots are available.

Has priority for visits (video visits in particular) changed?

- No, in fact. Per the policy, Incarcerated individuals are not excused from programming or work to attend a video visit.
- Assoc. Barker had said that even when he was instructing class, he would allow them the first one because they didn't know his expectation, but in order for them to receive credits for the class, they have to have a certain number of hours in attendance.
- Another thought to II not being excused from work is that they are being paid for this time.
- It was also discussed to possibly look at times available for additional video visiting in the units because II are now working and programming. Available times are limited for video visiting and visiting is still not open, though we are in extended hours from the original schedule at this time.



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Other Questions

Will it be taken into consideration who has had the vaccine or not for visiting?

- There is a meeting with HQ on the 16th to discuss re-opening Visiting with new safeguards in place.
- Recreation is now open, still no weight pile but other activities are open to include yard.

- 400 vaccines were delivered to the population per guidelines.
 - 1A, 1B, 65+, co-morbidity/ general
 - Moderna shots have been used.
 - There is more coming to the facility as available.

Are the barber shops open? Where are these located?

- They are in the Recreation/ gym.
- They are ready to be open, waiting for HQ approval.

Can someone be infraacted if they are attacked and they are defending themselves?

- Not necessarily. We will watch the video. He will be placed in IMU until we are able to investigate. After an investigation, if he is charged with a 505 for fighting, the charge can be dismissed due to it being an assault rather than a fight. Though there is a fine line between fighting and self-defense.

Some positive things that have been happening at WSP that Wendy reported to HQ

- Surgical masks have been available and worn by both staff and inmates.
- Calzone fund raiser went very well and was well received by the incarcerated individuals.
- Chris McGill has been extremely helpful with fund raisers and is helping others learn how to do them. There is a lot of detail and planning that goes into these.

WSP received the approval to hire the CPPC. The application process is underway and should close this weekend. We will move on this as soon as possible.

Where are we with funds and events? Some of the funds will be allocated to Hotel Vouchers. They have expanded this in Walla Walla and we are reaching out to hotels in the area who are willing to participate with this program.

They have received the approval to hire a Family Services Manager.

Have a lot of the staff at WSP been vaccinated?

- Yes. We have had clinics on sight here at WSP.
- The DOC web page has updated numbers on it.