

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: WSP / Teleconference

Date and Time: 5/18/2021, 1:00PM

Attendees

- Associate Superintendent Steve Barker, AA3 Carrie Meyer, Family Services Bill Copland, CPPC Debra Gilbreth, Sgt. Beal, SFC Rep Wendy Dubinsky and Dean Dubinsky, Connie Hollis, and Francis Storandt

Weekly COVID Update

Assoc. Superintendent S. Barker

WSP incarcerated individuals (I/I) - 0 COVID cases

WSP Staff - 1 COVID positive case and 1 self-quarantine case (Updated)

Associate Superintendent Barker shared that the facility is starting to open back up. We recently opened the outdoor weightlifting areas and visiting began last week.

Visiting

Sgt. Beal

Visiting opened May 9th. It's going well with no major concerns. Currently seeing 1-4 attendees per side with more on the weekend.

Scheduling process is working well, and visitors and I/I are complying with COVID guidelines and rules: wear mask at all times and don't touch the barriers.

Submitted Questions

None

Other Questions

Statewide there have been complaints with hearing troubles. Has that been an issue for WSP?

Have not received any complaints yet but understand that this could become a problem when more visitors are on site.

Received word that strip searches are occurring before and after visiting. This doesn't seem appropriate. What is WSP doing?

WSP received direction from headquarters that strip searches are not required at this time. Before that notice came out, WSP performed strip searches after visits per policy. Policy 420.310 states that strip searches will be conducted after direct contact with the public.

Sgt. Beal explained that there is still possibility of contraband entering the facility from visiting despite the barriers in place because the barriers are about 2 feet away from the ceiling and there are other areas where items could be passed.

Anyone sent home because the mask was too revealing?

No issues.

Follow up to response regarding COVID-19 Vaccinations:

WSP's population has been given the opportunity to receive the COVID vaccine. Tomorrow, May 19, Associate Superintendent, Rob Jackson, is overseeing the administration of the last 2nd dose clinic. From here on out, if anyone wants the vaccine, they will need to kite health services. WSP has vaccinated well over 1000 I/I. Our total numbers for population of vaccinated I/I are now around 75%-80%. I/I still have the right to refuse the vaccine.

As far as the 2nd dose time-frame, there is a dosing window for receiving the 2nd dose.

Follow up response regarding plastic trash bins:

WSP stopped purchasing plastic trash bins because the bins didn't last long, and they were expensive to purchase. Realized that for sustainability purposes, this was not a good option because we were filling up the land fill with plastic. Paper bags are environmentally friendly and cost efficient.

Suggestion: Use paper bags with wax lining.

Follow up response regarding Cardboard shelves:

WSP had a cardboard factory that made the cardboard shelves, but that factory no longer exists. Associate Superintendent Barker will work with the plant manager to see about making shelving using the IIBF monies. Group agreed using these funds for shelves in the unit would be a good purchase.

Update: Engineers are researching shelving designs and we will know more in the coming weeks.

Correctional Industries is working on a quote for supplying a custom shelf for the Medium Living Units.

Is there any news regarding stimulus checks?

Associate Superintendent Barker will find out what the status is on the stimulus checks from our business manager, Jim Cerna.

Update: Confirmed with our local business office that checks are coming in from the returned EIP cards.

NOMINATIONS

Assoc. Superintendent S. Barker

Statewide Rep: Mr. Barker made a motion to nominate Wendy Dubinsky for Statewide Rep for family council. Motion approved. Welcome Wendy!

LFC Secretary: Mrs. Dubinsky made a motion to nominate one of the attendees for the Local Family Council Secretary. Connie Hollis and Francis Storandt were in attendance. Ms. Hollis stated that she is unable to perform those duties at this time. Ms. Storandt stated that she could do the duties, but the time would need to be changed since she is in Germany and there is a 9-hour difference. Group agreed to change the meeting date to Saturdays at 8:30 am.

Next Local Family Council meeting will be June 5th 8:30 am – 10:00 am via Teams.