July 9, 2020

TO: Interested parties

FROM: Stephen Sinclair, Secretary

SUBJECT: Announcing Corrections’ Rapid Deployment Care Facility

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect our state, the Washington Department of Corrections continues to take measured and deliberate actions to best combat the virus and protect both staff and the incarcerated population. Starting on July 2, the Washington Department of Corrections began planning to establish a Rapid Deployment Care Facility (RDCF) and corresponding deconstruction of the Monroe Correctional Complex regional care facility (RCF).

Using lessons learned from the Airway Heights RCF and input from both health services and custody staff, the RDCF represents a planned effort by the Department to create an immediate responsive mobile care facility. The RDCF will be housed near the Department’s headquarters and deployed to the state’s 12 correctional facilities as needed. The RDCF’s 30 additional patient beds will provide additional resources and flexibility for medical staff when responding to an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases.

The medical supplies and materials currently deployed in the established Monroe Correctional Complex RCF will be shifted for use in the planned RDCF. The level of care to be provided through the RDCF will be similar to the level of care provided in RCFs. The area of the Monroe facility currently utilized by the RCF return to programming space for the delivery of services and activities benefiting the incarcerated population as the agency begins its Safe Start steps.

Additionally, the RCF at Washington Corrections Center for Women is nearing completion and will be used in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak in either of the state’s two correctional facilities for women. Those two state correctional facilities are Mission Creek Corrections Center and the Washington Corrections Center for Women.

RCFs are designed to increase medical capacity and safely and comfortably house incarcerated patients.