January 15, 2021

TO: All MCC Incarcerated Individuals

FROM: John Padilla, Incident Commander

SUBJECT: MCC Weekly COVID-19 Update

A Rapid Deployment Care Facility (RDCF) has been constructed at the Twin Rivers Unit (TRU) for utilization as an alternate housing area for COVID-19 positive individuals that require enhanced medical care. The facility provides 30 additional patient beds and is equipped with PPE donning and doffing areas, staff office, and air filtration system. The Fire Marshall completed an inspection on January 13, 2021 and a permit for use has been received.

The Washington State Reformatory Unit (WSRU) gym began operating as an alternate housing area for asymptomatic COVID-19 positive incarcerated individuals on medical isolation. Once determined by medical staff to be COVID-19 recovered, those individuals may be housed in custody appropriate housing.

The Minimum Security Unit (MSU) has one tier of incarcerated individuals on quarantine status due to potential COVID-19 exposure. Quarantined individuals are tested for COVID-19 every seven (7) days until all test negative for two consecutive rounds. They will cleared from quarantine after completing the required quarantine timeline and pending medical approval.

Video Visit Expectations have been posted to the DOC website with updated information. A copy of the expectations have been sent to staff for posting in the living units.

The Department began vaccination of staff and incarcerated individuals based on the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention’s Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) and Washington State Department of Health (DOH) recommendations for Phase 1A vaccine dosing prioritization. We will share additional information on vaccine distribution as it becomes available. **Staff and incarcerated individuals who receive the vaccine will continue to wear appropriate PPE, maintain social distancing, and be tested for COVID-19.**

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