Date:       February 18, 2021

To:         WCC Incarcerated Population

From:       Dean Mason, Incident Commander

Subject:    WCC COVID-19 Weekly Update

Based on recent events related to positive COVID-19 cases and increasing numbers of quarantined/medical isolation of incarcerated individuals in the facility, COVID-19 testing and housing strategies continue to adjust and transition. The facility continues restricted operations, with considerations and planning for a gradual return of work and limited recreation access for those who are now identified as cleared from COVID-19 and quarantine status.

Currently R1 is being utilized for Separation Intake. R2 is COVID-19 cleared. R3 is being utilized for Separation Intake. The M BLDG gym is housing individuals on medical isolation. R4 is housing individuals on quarantine status. R5 C/D tiers are COVID-19 clear. R5 A/B/E/F are housing individuals on quarantine status. R5 G/H tiers are housing individuals on medical isolation status. R6 is COVID-19 clear. Both Cedar Hall and Evergreen Hall are COVID-19 cleared.

It is imperative to make sure you are continuing to wear your face mask, following the six (6) foot social distancing rule, washing your hands, and keeping areas of the institution sanitized. It is appreciated when you remain diligent in wearing your face masks at all times, as your safety is a priority for DOC. Please be diligent in following proper protocols.

The Department received a limited amount of COVID-19 vaccine doses and began vaccinations according to Centers of Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention’s Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) and Washington State Department of Health (DOH) recommendations for Phase 1A and 1B Tier 1 vaccine dosing prioritization.
As a reminder, tell a staff member if you are feeling sick. You may be sent to medical isolation so you can receive medical care and so that others do not get sick. Medical isolation is not to punish you.

As we continue to navigate through this COVID-19 pandemic, the facility operations of callouts will be based on the ebb and flow of the virus and our ability to maintain safe and secure operations. Approved callouts will be communicated through unit staff.

Food service has been providing a snack for the evening as we go through this pandemic. For approximately the past month, a cake bar and s’mores bar have been provided at the dinner meal. These bars were not intended to be part of the dinner meal, rather as a night snack. The items have been reinstated and will be provided during the dinner meal until further notice.

We will continue to keep you updated with new information. Thank you for your patience and continued efforts to stay healthy.

Wash your hands, maintain social distance, and wear a mask.