January 4, 2022

TO: All WCCW Staff
    All Incarcerated Individuals

FROM: Charlotte Headley, Superintendent

SUBJECT: WCCW Limited Area Outbreak

On January 3, 2022, the Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW) confirmed that two (2) staff members tested positive for COVID-19. Additionally, on January 3, 2022, WCCW received confirmation that one (1) incarcerated individual, housed in the Close Custody Unit, had tested positive. As a result of those positive test results, and per Department protocol, WCCW’s Close Custody Unit is on limited area outbreak status.

On December 21, 2021, the Department announced an update to the COVID-19 protocols and shared the definition of a Limited Area Outbreak. Facilities that experience an outbreak, that is very limited to one area, may be placed on a Limited Area Outbreak. Meaning only the impacted area would be on outbreak status, and the rest of the facility would remain unaffected.

In a consultation with Headquarters Clinical Leadership and Prisons Operations Leadership, the determination was made that WCCW Close Custody Unit is the only affected area experiencing a Limited Area Cluster and Limited Area Outbreak. While the Close Custody Unit will remain quarantined and unable to participate in visitation, the rest of the facility will continue normal operations. When testing results are received, a status update will be provided with further details.

It is imperative to make sure you continue to wear your appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as well as social distancing at all times. Please encourage and model the same behavior that we expect from our incarcerated population.

Similarly, it is vital that we continue to follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines, ensuring to follow the six (6) foot social distancing rule, washing your hands, and keeping areas of the institution sanitized. Staff must remain diligent in wearing your masks.

“Working Together for SAFER Communities”
at all times, as your safety, as well as your family’s, are a priority.

 Corrections is committed to everyone’s safety. We will continue to communicate with you as we progress through this pandemic.

 CKH:mrj
 cc: Health Services Manager 3 Paul Clark  
     Associate Superintendent of Operations Paula Chandler  
     Associate Superintendent of Programs Karin Arnold  
     WCCW Incident Command  
     HQ Communications  
     File