January 4, 2022

TO: Brownstone Reentry Center Staff and Residents

FROM: Colleen Pettit, Incident Commander

SUBJECT: Brownstone COVID-19 Weekly Update

On December 18, 2021, via regular serial testing of the resident population, one resident out of the 54 tested positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of identifying the first positive case (identified on December 8, 2021). On December 18, 2021, clinical and Headquarters Emergency Operations Center were notified, and this positive resident was transported to an off-site Medical Isolation Facility on December 20, 2021. The close contacts of the second positive resident were placed into medical quarantine and the entire resident and staff population were rapid tested on December 19, 2021. All rapid tests confirmed negative results. As a secondary precaution, we again tested all residents and staff via PCR and from those tests, an additional resident tested positive for COVID-19. This resident was transported to the Medical Isolation and Quarantine Facility within an hour of notification on December 23, 2021.

Per protocol, any close contacts identified with the third positive were placed into Medical Quarantine. Another round of rapid and PCR testing occurred on December 24 and 25, 2021. The results have been received with no additional positives.

PCR tests were collected for all residents and staff on December 27, 2021, and those results are all reported as negative as of January 4, 2022.

A PCR test for every resident and staff on site was conducted on January 3, 2022. These results are pending. Please continue to adhere to the quarantine protocols in place and continue to report any symptoms to staff immediately.

We continue to follow CDC guidelines and department Guidelines and Protocols for Screening, Testing and Infection Control.

We understand that this is a very difficult time for residents and staff alike. We truly appreciate everyone’s positive attitude and respectful interactions in managing this response. Staff psychologist, Dr. Small is available for staff. Please reach out to him if you are experiencing any stress and need guidance.

For residents experiencing anxiety, depression or situational stress, all staff at Brownstone are here to help guide you and we are always listening. Additionally, it’s advised to contact 211 for community help. Anyone needing more acute care, please reach out to a staff member you are comfortable talking to and we can help direct you to the care you need.

“Working Together for SAFER Communities”
I am always available to field your concerns. We must take care of each other, staff and residents alike. I ask that we continue working together. This event truly depends on every single employee and resident to follow the quarantine protocols, identify problems so we can solve them in a swift manner and ensure we report any symptoms as soon as they are noticed. Even if you are not sure if the symptoms are “Covid related” or not, let’s let our medical team help you with this decision making. We must be working together. I need to ensure the continuation of a safe operations at Brownstone for everyone.

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 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.