January 10, 2022

TO: All WCCW Staff
All WCCW Incarcerated Individuals

FROM: Paula Chandler, Co-Incident Commander
Paul Clark, Co-Incident Commander
Washington Corrections Center for Women

RE: Limited Area Outbreak and Facility Wide Cluster

As of today, January 10, 20211 the Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW) has had 70 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the incarcerated population and 35 staff. Positive Cases have been found in Medium Security Unit (MSU), Closed Custody Unit (CCU), J-Unit and K-Units on the minimum security compound. As a result of the COVID-19 positive cases, WCCW has started testing the entire population for a second PCR. Following the Prisons Division Cluster and Outbreak Checklist due to the positive COVID-19 tests and the associated quarantined cases that go with them, we have reached a point in time in which we will have to take additional steps to limit the potential exposure of COVID-19 to the WCCW incarcerated population.

Restricted Movement is still in effect due to COVID-19. This change impacts the incarcerated population’s ability to attend regularly scheduled programs, call-outs, and services. Cohorting has already been in effect for each of the areas. Serial testing of our incarcerated population, and an increased awareness to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) protocols, cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting, and social distancing. These steps are meant to minimize the short and long-term impact that our response will have on our incarcerated population at WCCW. By taking these measures, we hope to cut down on the number of potential exposures and reduce the amount of time it will take to get back to a new normal with our operations.

It is imperative that everyone continue to wear a Surgical Mask or appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), practice social distancing at all times, and hold the incarcerated responsible to meet these standards. 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.

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

PEC:mrj
cc: Electronic File

“Working Together for SAFE Communities”