January 22, 2022

TO: All Bishop Lewis House Work/Training Release Staff

FROM: Stacy Fitzgerald, Community Corrections Supervisor

SUBJECT: Bishop Lewis House Work/Training Release COVID-19 Facility Wide Outbreak

January 5, 2022, Bishop Lewis House Work/Training Release was placed on outbreak status as a result of positive tests within the staff and resident populations. Since then, more residents have tested positive for COVID-19. The COVID-19 positive residents were temporarily placed in medical isolation status. Movement inside the facility and in the community was limited, and testing schedules increased to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This has allowed us to quickly identify others who may have been exposed and eliminate potential exposure to other individuals.

The facility is following a structured response to ensure essential activities continue, such as laundry, meals, showers, communication, and releases/transfers/intakes. Your health and safety continue to be our main priority. All medical directives are in accordance with Washington State Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control Guidelines.

During this time, movement inside the facility has been limited based on the latest DOC COVID-19 Screening, Testing, and Infection Control Guidelines. To ensure our facility is in full compliance with the Guidelines, we have implemented a structured response to ensure essential activities continue, such as laundry, meals, showers, communication, and releases/transfers/intakes. Those who are medically authorized to continue programming have since returned to work, training, and other their regular passes.

Residents have access to cell phones to increase communications with staff, friends, and family. It is important that you report any symptoms to staff as soon as you become aware. Ensure you follow the quarantine protocols by wearing your surgical mask at all times, disinfect anything that you touch and wash your hands immediately after touching a surface. Please remain in your room, leaving only for restroom use or in the event of an emergency evacuation.

It is imperative to make sure you are wearing your appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as well as social distancing at all times. This is especially important when residents are going to and from the bathrooms and showers. Please be diligent in following proper protocols and put on your mask prior to opening your door. Surgical masks will be available for daily replacement or when mask is wet or soiled.

We appreciate your continued patience. We are working hard to ensure you have resources to address any emotional distress during this time. We will provide activity packets, craft supplies and reading/writing materials to help pass the time if needed.

“Working Together for SAFER Communities”
I want to thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this very difficult time. It is important to remain strong, to support one another, and be kind. Please do your part to stay healthy.