

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: Coyote Ridge Corrections Center

Date and Time: 05/20/2021 @ 0900

Attendees

- **Local Family Council Members**

- **DOC Staff:**

Kate Jansen, Administrative Assistant
Michelle Duncan, Associate Superintendent
Ken Jennings, Health Services Manager

Jeff Uttecht, Superintendent
Paige Perkinson, Outreach
Ramona Cravens, Public Information Office

- **OMBUDS**

Caitlin Robertson, OCO

- Please note:

- Questions for upcoming meetings are to be emailed to Kate Jansen at catherine.jansen@doc1.wa.gov Good afno later than 8:00 am Wednesday. It is important that we received questions in advance to provide us time to research the answer. Not receiving questions may create a delay in a response.
 - All questions received afterwards will be held over to the next week or if time allows asked during the end of the conference call.
 - All questions sent to our staff before the informational sharing phone call during the week, will be answered on the Friday phone calls or forwarded onto DOCCOVID19@DOC.WA.GOV for appropriate response.

- Additional guidelines:

- Meeting time will be one (1) hour.
- We will answer all the questions first and open for questions/comments afterwards.
- If any questions are left unanswered at the end of the meeting, we will add them to the next meeting.
- Please ensure your phones are on mute.
- Please provide your name before asking a question or responding.

- **Please do not share COVID-19 informational call phone-In Information with others, especially via social media.**

- If you, or you know someone that has a loved one at CRCC and would like to be added to the LFC list to receive call in information, meeting minutes and other correspondence the facility may send out please send an email to catherine.jansen@doc1.wa.gov or miduncan@doc1.wa.gov.

Weekly Update

Testing

Staff – 190

Incarcerated Individuals: 407 (5 in the last 30 days)

MSU: 122
MSC: 285
In hospital: 0
Isolation: 0
Quarantine: 212

Total Vaccinations given at CRCC (Staff and Individuals): 2,205

If you would like to know all the updated numbers of those vaccinated, please visit <https://doc.wa.gov/corrections/covid-19/data-vaccines.htm>.

MSU Unit Operations:

Currently we have one half of a living unit, Sage West, on quarantine. The other is running under normal operations.

MSC Unit Operations

G Unit A Pod are under quarantine status currently. The MSC living units continue to operate with the identified cohorts and schedule.

Visitation

Visitation has been resumed. Please visit <https://doc.wa.gov/corrections/incarceration/prisons/crcc.htm> for all the information regarding in-person visits for Coyote Ridge Corrections Center.

Questions

Question

Is there a reason that E Unit A Pod might not be out for dayroom today?

Answer:

We have had some issues with our door system last night. We have restored that, but it did cause some delays in movement and operations.

Question

Was that for the whole facility?

Answer:

It was for the entire MSC facility. Our MSU facility was not affected.

Question

What do the barriers look like for visitation?

Answer:

I would say that they look like cubicles. They have clear plastic across the top of the cubicle, while the bottom portion is made with metal. It has a speak-through so that you can easily talk with a loved one. There are also clear barriers along the side just to make sure that you are separated from another visitor.

Question

What has been the feedback on visitation?

Answer:

We have not received any direct feedback at this time regarding the visits that have taken place. Another family member noted on the call that the feedback that has been received has been very positive. The families are very happy to finally be able to see their loved ones. While they would love to be able to hug their family members, it has been very rewarding to finally be able to see them.

Question

How many visitors can the room hold?

Answer:

40 visitors plus our staff.

Question

For visitation, there are no children and no restrooms, is that correct?

Answer:

No minors under the age of 16. Restrooms can be used one-at-a-time for visitors.

Question

Will there be smaller size masks available?

Answer:

Yes. If the visitor requests one, we do have some onsite.

Question

Are they doing searches on individuals after visitation?

Answer:

That could still occur. Our officers can conduct searches with cause.

Question

We were told that they wouldn't do that because of the barriers and that there is no cause?

Answer:

That is normally the case, yes. But if we have a justification, we can perform a search.

Question

Do we have an estimation on how long the no-contact visits will last?

Answer:

At this time, we couldn't give an estimate.

Question

How does the testing work? How many people are being tested?

Answer

Currently we are testing the whole pod, which is testing half the unit. There are a lot of factors that come into play here, such as where they work, programming, etc.

Question

What about the individuals that just came in on chain bus?

Answer:

All individuals go into transfer separation, which is currently being housed in B Unit, A Pod. Anyone that leaves or comes into our custody, once they arrive or return, they are put into transfer separation pending two negative tests and a ten-day quarantine.

Update: One thing that was not discussed on the call that is important to note is that if an individual has had COVID in the last 90 days, they are not required to be placed in transfer separation.

Question

Are the CO's still getting tested weekly?

Answer:

All staff continue with serial testing weekly.

Question

G Unit is on quarantine, not the camp?

Answer:

Our Sage West, which is half our Sage unit, is also on quarantine status.

Question

Are they talking about requiring vaccinations for visitation?

Answer:

No, there is currently no requirements for vaccinations for visitation.

Question

Those that are vaccinated, would they be able to take their masks off for visitation?

Answer:

At this time, DOC is keeping the rules as they are. There has been some discussion as to what those new rules may look like in the future.

Question

For the unit that is being quarantine, which means that there is limited time out, is there any way that time can be extended?

Answer:

It is difficult to manage smaller cohorts given the number of people in the unit and the amount of time in the day. We must reduce the amount of people in the dayroom for the protection of the population. We do this to potentially stop the spread of the virus within the unit. If there are challenges, please contact us and we will speak with the unit manager to see if we can work through that.

Question

Is the unit considered to be on outbreak status?

Answer:

We are on limited outbreak status in the living unit.

Question

Do you believe that Cheryl Strange is going to come visit Coyote Ridge soon?

Answer:

I haven't heard that. I hope she does, as I would love to meet her.

Question

How has the check-in process been for visitation?

Answer:

There have been no issues to date. We haven't had a full visit room; we haven't had a high number of visitors yet, so it has gone smoothly. We will continue to monitor this.

Question

How many people can fit in the visitation rooms?

Answer:

At our MSC, we can fit 20 individuals, 40 visitors, plus our staff. At MSU, we can have 14 individuals, 20 visitors, plus our staff.

Question

Can we submit a request with the same day, but three different times?

Answer:

You can do that. However, if the individual is already scheduled for that day you will get a denial letter with a request to schedule on a different day. I will always try to get you your first requested appointment.

Question

Mr. Uttecht, can you remind me of your retirement date?

Answer:

If I am retiring, no one has told me. Mr. Herzog is retiring at the end of May, however.

Question

When the doors go out, isn't there a manual way to override that?

Answer:

Yes, we can open the doors, but it does slow the process significantly.

- Thank you for joining us. Next week's call will be Thursday June 3, 2021 @0900.