

MCC Local Family Council

Local Family Council COVID-19 Teleconference Notes

April 24, 2020

Family Members deemed present by sending email: Angela Hinton, Felix D'Allesandro, Carol Welch, Diane Durall, Christine Mathison, Kim Day, David Bullard, Wendy Wilhelm, Byron Coats, Danielle White, Lynn Barker, Carol Darby, Joanne Todd, Julyan Pegram, and Ruth Weaver.

Participants: Mike Obenland, Ina McNeese, John Padilla, Kristi Webb, Eric Jackson, Lisa Anderson, Terry Cohn and Captain McNeese welcomed everyone and proceeded to answer predetermined questions.

MCC Quarantine & Isolation

LOCATION	ISOLATION	QUARANTINE	Population
SOU Core Inf.	3	-	-
IMU J-Pod	9	-	-
IMU H-Pod	-	8 (Violator)	-
IMU L-Pod	7	-	-
TRU E-Unit	6	-	-
TRU D-Unit	-	1 (4/26)	-
WSRU IPU	-	1- (5/3)	-
WSRU EFV Trailers	-	-	13
WSRU Hosp. Watch	-	-	2
WSRU 3A	-	-	23
WSR C-Unit	-	183 (5/3)	-
WSR D-Unit	-	185 (5/3)	-
MSU A-Unit	-	62 (5/1)	-
MSU B-Unit	-	82 (4/30)	-
MSU C-Unit	-	70 (4/28)	-
MSU Hobby Shop	-	6 (4/28)	-
IMU Work Release Group	-	33 (5/1)	-
TOTAL:	23	634	

PPE Masks

All staff are required to wear masks when entering facilities.

The incarcerated and Correctional Industries are making masks for the population. All men at the MSU have been issued masks and it is anticipated WSR will receive theirs today. We are asking that staff and I/I use common sense when enforcing usage outdoors and while exercising.

JPay and telephones

There was positive feedback on JPay patches. Tier Reps are reporting no issues and I also received positive feedback from some of our council members. There are phones for the isolated men, working with proper cleaning procedures.

Communication

We are working on getting information out to the population as it arises, but things are changing very quickly. When necessary, messages are sent to the incarcerated.

Inmate banking is fully staffed and the business office is telecommuting.

Cleaning Supplies

We continue to provide cleaning materials and appropriate cleansers.

Recreation

\$4,830 were recreation fees were refunded to the population

Soap/Hand Sanitizer

120 hand sanitizing stations are being disbursed throughout the facilities for individual use. The solution is 60% alcohol based. We have put them in areas that can be monitored but have I/I drinking it. We are also giving out more antibacterial soap.

Law Library Access

Confirmed with Law Librarian that appropriate access is being provided with emphasis on those whom have filing deadlines. Daily tier rep meetings have resulted in positive feedback.

Property

We are currently down 95 staff this had a huge impact on our property and clothing rooms. A big push has been made to assist in accounting for and delivering property and clothing replacement.

WSRU Double Bunking

We anticipate all will be housed in single cells after early releases.

Visiting

The Department has not established a date for return to visiting operations.

Representatives from the Ombuds Office and Disability Rights Washington toured MCC this this week. It is difficult to Socially Distance in prison.

Releases

The decisions on who releases is made at Headquarters level. We do not make that decision.

Questions:

- Josephine Johnson
 - What is the rotation as to who gets out of their cells? It's not being handled fairly. *We will look in to it to ensure that the schedules are being followed.*
 - Why can't they have J-Pay players in isolation? *Because there is not a safe way to charge them at a charging station.*
- Angela Hinton
 - There are rumors about visiting not reopening until September. Is there any truth to that? *That is a rumor and we have not heard that.*
- Felix D'Allesandro
 - There are issues with phones because they are spraying the receivers with cleaner. *We have said over and over again not to do that.*
- Diane Durall
 - Have we considered opening the grassy areas for recreation?
 - I/I need more assistance with online learning. Can they have vacant rooms with cameras to tutor?
- Kim Day
 - Are we allowing I/I in isolation to make phone calls? *Yes. Dr. Strick has allowed calls.*
- Jody Bullard – No questions
- Carol Welch – No questions
- Danielle White
 - There appears to be linen exchange issues. Her husband had 1 exchange in 2 mo. *We have not been made aware of any issues and have heard that it has been business as usual.*

- Byron Coates – No questions
- Carol Darby – No questions
- Lynn Barker – No questions
- Suzanne Cook
 - How many tests have been taken? *If she sends Capt. McNeese an email she will look in to it and get back to her.*
 - What exactly is the process for phones in isolation? *The phones are on rolling carts with long cords. There is a schedule for who gets it when. We do our best to make sure that everyone*
- Joan Todd
 - How often do guys in isolation get to bathe? *Bird baths taken any time in their cell. They also get to go to the shower on the 7th and 14th day of isolation.*
- Christine Matheson
 - There were problems connecting with her son on D-Unit all week. Phones kept disconnecting. *Capt. McNeese suggested doing a help ticket and she will follow up.*

Supt. Obenland's Comments

Can families please help to encourage hand washing and not touching face? Everyone has face coverings and he asks to use common sense when outdoors and exercising. Keep social distancing and don't walk down wind of someone w/o their mask on.

Hand sanitizer was distributed but there are guys drinking it.

During the COVID 19 Crisis, MCC will have weekly phone conferences on Fridays at 1 p.m.