

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: Monroe Correctional Complex

Date and Time: 9/18/20, 1:00 PM

Attendees

- David Bullard
- Jody Bullard
- Karen Cain
- Byron Coates
- Felix D'Allesandro
- Caryl Darby
- Diane Durall
- Angela Hinton
- Josephine Johnson
- Christina Mathison
- Diane Pasta
- Jennifer Patterson
- Rob Tarver
- Joanne Todd
- Carol Welch
- Ina McNeese
- Kathleen Bechler
- Eric Jackson
- Kari Styles
- Heather Trenk
- Terry Cohn
- Karen Haydon
- Matthias Gyde

Weekly Update

There are 5 violators and 1 from general population on isolation.

We have 5 from general population on quarantine. These numbers are very good.

Staff COVID testing is still continuing. There was 1 staff member who tested positive and noticed just a slight scratchy throat. Contact mapping was completed. The staff took the PPE seriously and no others were put on quarantine.

Last Friday we had to close our outdoor recreation due to air quality being over 300. Anything over 151 for pollutants we have to close outdoor activities. N95 masks will be given to those who ask for them when the air quality is bad. When air quality is below 130 and we were able to open the yard yesterday afternoon. Today pollutants climbed to over 150 and we again had to close the yard.

Today there is a wedding occurring between Incarcerated Individual and fiancé. This is the first of many who have been waiting in the queue. Social distancing and no contact remain in effect with one outside witness. DOC is working their best to ensure safety protocol are maintained.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Question 1

What about the processing and approval of EFVs? I know EFVs cannot occur so I'm just looking for the status of applying, processing and approving.

Answer

EFV applications are approved up to the final step of approval. When EFV are have a start date the EFV packets will be finalized.

Question 2

I heard from one of the LFC members that DOC will not allow inmates to buy the new JP player until the contract is settled. Is that true?

Answer

Yes they will not be able to purchase the new Jp-6. They are having production issues with the JP-5 mini so they lowered the price of the JP-5 7 inch to the mini price. All open JP5mini orders will be filled with a JP5s.

Question 3

Question was received about a loved one going to the hospital. How can I get information on what is happening and how they are?

Answer

We have talked about the release of medical information form before. This is a good thing for a loved ones to put into file before they have a medical issue that puts them in the hospital. A password will be given to family to use when they call to let Medical know they are speaking to the correct person. With this in place it is the only way to find out how they are doing. If you have questions about the process please reach out to Captain McNeese who will be able to point you in the right direction.

Additional Questions

Question 1 - Comments

- I appreciate the information I was able to get from the business office. I reached out and they were very helpful. Thank you.
- A while ago JPay and DOC treated the family members as outsiders and the incarcerated as the JPay customer. Since that time, families are now be treated as the customers since usually we are the ones who pay the bills. We appreciate the change.

Question 2

What is the official site that DOC uses to determine air quality?

Answer

Air-quality.com for Snohomish County. Link is below.

https://air-quality.com/place/united-states/snohomish-county/b51735fa?lang=en&standard=aqi_us

Question 3 - Comment

- Tomorrow is the Statewide Family Council Skype meeting and topics to be discussed include: Betterment Fund, Travel Vouchers, Phased Reopening, staff accountability.
- MCC LFC Skype meeting on October 17th will be election of officers.

Question 4

With all that is going on with air quality and COVID and staying in cells for long hours, is there any Mental Health officered to the population?

Answer

Yes, we have Mental Health Staff at all the facilities. Early in the pandemic, Mental Health staff walked around and talked to the population. If they are having an issue they only have to send a kite to let us know they are in need of their services. Mental health staff are very responsive.

Question 5 - Comment

There was an article in the Seattle Times on Thursday regarding Monroe Correctional Complex.

Question 6 - Comment

I would like to thank CPM Cohn for the Costco pizza fundraiser that was held at TRU. It was very much appreciated.

Question 5

WSRU CI Building 4 is now keeping their Bay doors closed while they are working out there. Is this due to the theft?

Answer

CI is set up with many bays. Each Industry Bay door is now secured between movements. We had loitering, workers being in the wrong bay area and some theft. CI Manager worked with Custody to ensure there is security and that breaks are given to the workers to use the facilities etc. If someone needs to leave the area during the closed times, they can talk to their area supervisor.

Question 6

On the units, the air quality was bad but nothing happened about it until staff complained about it. Why?

Answer

This is the first we have heard about this. All living units have air handling units with filters and the filters are changed. Box fans were brought in to get air flow but we didn't hear any complaints.

Question 7

With visiting not yet happening, how were they able to get a wedding approved?

Answer

The individual brought it up to Headquarters and Headquarters approved it. We worked to get a safety plan in place. The bride and groom had to be distanced with only the bride and an outside witness. This is a much smaller scaled than figuring out how we will be able to open up visiting. Opening up visiting is just around the corner. We have to have a safety plan in place and have it approved by Headquarters.

Question 8

Will there be consideration for people who are traveling from far away to visit?

Answer

Yes. We will be able to make that happen.

Question 9

How will we be able to get a password for Medical information?

Answer

I will follow up and find the answer and maybe get the information out to the population.

Comments/Closing

Heather Trenk said that we don't have any events currently planned. We are waiting for updates from headquarters. Last event was the back to school backpacks.

Thank you everyone. Have a safe and happy weekend.