

# Local Family Council COVID 19 Teleconference

## Stafford Creek Correction Center

### March 25, 2020

**Facilitator:** Gina Penrose Associate Superintendent of Programs

**Attendance:**

Miriam Fry – Family Representative  
Vanessa Lewis – Family Representative  
Ron Haynes – Superintendent  
Caroline Melhusish – Family Services

Susan Cooksey – Family Representative  
Verna Westman – Family Representative  
Keith Parris – DOC Health Services  
Denise Myers – Secretary Senior

**Purpose** – to get information related to the COVID 19 outbreak out to the families to help them understand the steps being taken by DOC to keep the Incarcerated Individuals safe and healthy.

**Sanitation** – Sanitation measures have increased. A germicidal that is approved by Health Department is being used to that would take care of the COVID 19 virus. There has been an increase in the number of Incarcerated Individuals working to keep the common areas clean, and at night a deep cleaning is done.

**Testing** – No Incarcerated Individuals have tested positive in any Washington State DOC facility.

**Social Distancing** – Social Distancing is being encouraged, reminded and enforced. In the dayroom, 2 people per table and every other phone is taken off line. Number of simultaneous callouts is limited to avoid bunching up. Smaller groups are being allowed to go to meals and the HUBs that go out to Correctional Industries. College is working on restructuring class sizes, and other programs are regrouping for smaller sizes too. Correctional Industries workers that were deemed to be working to close to each other have been given cleaning assignments. The units are operating to give Incarcerated Individuals more space, cellmates are being encouraged to limit cell time to when the other cellmate is not in the cell.

**Activities** - The garden sites are being increased to give Incarcerated Individuals a chance to get fresh air and activity, all of the food produced will be donated to charities in the community. Puzzle are being printed and games are being developed that will promote social distancing, and to give the Incarcerated Individuals something else to do.

**Screenings** – No visitors or volunteers are being allowed to come in. Staff is being screened at before the start of their shifts. If any of the Incarcerated Individuals shows signs of having symptoms is screened by medical and quarantined. Their cells are sanitized, clean linens and hygiene items are being provide at no cost to them. Medical callouts have been increased to every half hour to reduce the number of people in medical.

**Transports** – Transfers are being minimized from facility to facility. Screenings for the virus symptoms are being done before and after the transport. No hospital runs are being done unless it is for an emergent reason.

**JPay** - We have worked with JPay to expand services. Video Visits can be done from 7 am to 3:30 pm and then from 5 pm to 8:30 pm. The Incarcerated Individuals can now log in twice a day, but at least two hours apart, to check emails.

### **Questions from Council Members**

Question – Is staff being bunched up at the start of shift?

Answer – The location of the staff screening was changed to rectify the bunching up. It is a learning process and we discovered right away.

Question – Are the Incarcerated Individuals being given extra towels for cleaning or do they use their bath towels?

Answer – Extra cleaning rags have been provided to the housing units and if they need more they need to ask.

Question – Are the Incarcerated Individuals being provided hand sanitizer?

Answer – No, washing hands with soap and water is much more effective than hand sanitizer and is recommended by the CDC

Question – The OCO conference daily call sends notes to family members, will these be sent too to everyone also?

Answer – Yes, we can send them out to the council member and they can distribute.

Question – How are they free phone calls going?

Answer – The free 5 minutes calls are going well. The phones are close together, so we closed off every other phone for social distancing purposes.