

Local Family Council COVID-19 Teleconference Notes

Stafford Creek Corrections Center

May 27, 2020 3:00 pm

Facilitator

Gina Penrose, Associate Superintendent of Programs

Attendance:

SCCC Staff: Superintendent R. Haynes, Assoc. Supt. D. Van Ogle, CPM G. Bohon, CPM R. Schreiber, Lt. R. Rubalcaba, HCM2 K. Parris, LBA R. Redding, ITS5 K. Bradley, FM5 R. Attard, CS K. Peterson, SS D. Myers, SS M. Rehak

LFC Family Officers: Family State Rep S. Cooksey, Family Co-Chair M. Fry, Family Secretary V. Lewis

LFC Family Members: E. Broussard, H. Dockery, J. Dameron, C. Giles, D. Sifres, K. Stuart Stevenson, L. Taylor, J. Triggs, K. Wilks, D. Williams

Purpose

To obtain information related to the COVID 19 outbreak and send to the families to help them understand the steps being taken by DOC to keep the Incarcerated Individuals safe and healthy.

Approval of 5/20/2020 Teleconference Notes

Notes were approved by LFC officers & family members.

UPDATE TO COVID-19 PROTOCOL:

Gina Penrose shared that as we begin to receive community violators returning from rapid re-entry, we have initiated an "Intake Separation" process in IMU. Also, we are proactively utilizing contact mapping in the facility for those on separation and while waiting for test results on those presenting with flu-like symptoms.

UPDATE TO QUESTIONS FROM LAST WEEK'S MEETING:

1. Q: Ms. Stuart Stevenson asked for an update on this week's testing and quarantine/isolation stats for SCCC.

A: There are zero positive cases of COVID-19 among SCCC staff and incarcerated individuals. Every individual who goes into isolation is tested and we have the result within 3-4 days. This information is updated daily at 3:00 pm on the state website: <https://www.doc.wa.gov/news/covid-19.htm>. We are using contact mapping in every isolation case. There are currently zero individuals on isolation in G-Unit.

2. Q: On behalf of Ms. Duschene: Was there a follow-up on adding vegetables to the lunch boats or providing a more appropriate options for diabetics?

A: Response from FM5 Ron Attard: SCCC Food Services currently provide two hot meals a day; breakfast and dinner. The lunch boats are packaged and sealed by C.I. at Airway Heights to transport to us. We will not break that seal to add anything, however the individuals have the option of taking fresh fruit from mainline breakfast to supplement their boat meal. An incarcerated individual may request an assessment from their medical provider or registered dietician to obtain an HSR for a special meal. Mr. Attard will present the request for the inclusion of vegetables in the boat meals during his next meeting with C.I. and will share an update for the next LFC teleconference.

SUSTAINABILITY IN PRISONS PROJECT DURING COVID-19

Correctional Specialist Kelly Peterson provided an update on how COVID-19 is affecting our programs. Only one program has been affected, and this is the once-a-month environmental education workshop. Rather than an in-person workshop, The Evergreen State College is airing videos on tv each month for the incarcerated individuals to watch and write an essay on, earning them transferable college credits. Other programs have actually grown. The honeybees program has been relocated centrally within the facility so that everyone who wants to participate, can. We are conducting classes of ten or less and they enjoy suiting up and being hands-on. The garden program has expanded and we have hired more gardeners. We continue to offer these programs to keep the population busy and productive. We are always looking for new programs.

1. Q: Can the vegetables grown in the facility's garden be used to supplement the boat meals? How much of it gets used in the facility?

A: We are just now starting to harvest, and it is very difficult to try to predict the yield and plan around a menu. We do grow microgreens in the Aquaponics area, all of which goes to the kitchen and mixed into the menu salad. We also send other produce to the kitchen to mix into salads or specialty items such as zucchini bread and pumpkin pie for the holidays. An east coast company supplies us with free seeds under the condition that a percentage what is grown is sent to the community in which we are still sending food to the food banks.

CURRENT QUESTIONS:

1. Q: Why are hot dogs not being offered with the Field Day Events taking place this week?

A: Response from CPM Bohon: Due to social distancing and increased sanitary guidelines, buffet-style meals such as BBQ or hot dogs with all the fixings is not possible. We are focused on keeping up morale by offering games and friendly competition, unit by unit. When the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, we may consider another small event like this one and offer some type of picnic food at that time. *After the meeting it was found that all incarcerated individuals that participated in the Field Day Event were*

given a goody bag which included; chips, pretzels, a pop and cookies. So nobody went without a special treat.

2. Q: During which state recovery phase will EFV's and visitation be opened up?

A: Our visitors come from all over, not just within our own county. Per the May 19th memo from headquarters to all incarcerated individuals, visitation will resume as a statewide initiative after Washington State has lifted restrictions to public interactions AND internal processes are in place to offset risks associated with correctional and congregate living conditions. We do not yet have a proposed date for re-opening.

3. Comments: JPay's software update 20.3 rolled out today but it doesn't seem to have fixed everything outlined in the release notes. Most video visits are unsuccessful, yet we are still being charged for the visits.

Reply: Please complete a help ticket to report the issues so that they can be address right away. We will continue our vigilance in reporting and communication with JPay.

4. Comment: There is concern over the COVID-19 number reporting and more transparency from SCCC would be appreciated. The CDC is recommending the testing of asymptomatic individuals as they are finding the number of positive cases much higher.

Reply from Gina Penrose: We are following WA DOC guidelines to test everyone who presents with symptoms and goes into isolation. We will pass your concern for more testing and reporting along to HQ.

5. Q: Is there an update on the mattresses?

A: C.I. has shifted their focus from manufacturing mattresses to COVID-related items. I will inquire about the status of them and provide that update at the next meeting.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

SCCC's IT Department has set up these calls in a way that helps track participants. [To join by phone, call \(360\) 407-3825 and enter conference ID: 20223028.](#) After entering your contact information, JUST HIT # TO BYPASS THE PIN. Please state your name clearly so that the facilitator can acknowledge your arrival. Everyone will be muted upon entry so that we can hear all of the entry announcements. Your facilitator will unmute everyone shortly after 3:00 pm to begin the dialogue.