

Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details

Facility: Stafford Creek Corrections Center

Date and Time: 8-5-20

Attendees

- SCCC Staff – Associate Penrose, ICP & AA3 Tatro
- HQ – Paige Perkinson
- Family Services – C. Melhuish
- OCO – M. Gyde
- LFC Officers: State Rep Cooksey, Family Secy Lewis & Co-Chair Fry
- Family members – J. Revay, D. Sifres, S. Hitchcock, B. Duschene, V. Westman, K. Stuart Stevenson, L. Taylor, J. Triggs & S. Wade

Weekly Updates

- Resume weekly COVID-19 meetings – It was decided to resume the teleconferences from twice per month to every week due to recent happenings at the facility. A new calendar invite & email went out to all LFC officers & family members reflecting this information, along with new conference ID regarding teleconference call.
- On Sunday DOH public health sent amended lab reports to SCCC stating that 2 tests previously reported as positive were amended to negative. The lab clarified on Monday and they reported these tests were amended due to an administrative error at the lab with the first test reports according to DOH public health lab quality assurance personnel. All testing of H1 B pod came back negative for COVID. On 8-3 after 1545 formal count, all units went to dinner mainline with H1 no longer being on restricted movement along with yard & REC being open. On 8-4 am SCCC resumed programming, Law Library, Chapel, REC & yards and work. Important modifications were made to protocols that were identified during this incident as being insufficient. One such area is the Kitchen with its close proximity for workers and changes to the call-out allowing a few units to cohort rather than mixing kitchen workers from all units thereby keeping the spread of the virus, if it were introduced into SCCC, to a minimal amount. Any incarcerated individual may opt out of working in the Kitchen without an infraction being written.
- Electronics – We have a new process in place where the population's property is being delivered to the units & issued by unit staff.

Pre-Submitted Questions -

Question 1

How did COVID-19 get inside the facility?

Answer

When COVID gets in, we may not be able to say exactly how it got in as there are too many unknowns about the virus. SCCC remains COVID-19 free for all staff and incarcerated individuals.

Question 2

What is SCCC doing to treat those individuals who have tested positive?

Answer

At this time we don't have a treatment other than for the flu and isolating the cases.

Question 3

What is SCCC doing to quarantine those individuals?

Answer

We isolate and contain as soon as soon as possible.

Question 4

What is SCCC doing to keep the other individuals protected?

Answer

Modified movement for reduced exposure.

Question 5

Why does SCCC not have more masks available? It's not safe to wash their own masks.

Answer

SCCC has issued 3-5 masks to all incarcerated individuals and masks are continually being made & supplied to the units. If an incarcerated individual requests a mask, they will receive one. Each incarcerated individual can send their mask(s) to be laundered in our laundry or wash them in the unit by hand.

Question 6

What are we doing to keep things clean? Tables, surfaces, phones, etc.?

Answer

Porters are assigned to the units to continually clean frequently touched areas. Additional rags and germicide is provided to ramp up the cleaning efforts.

Question 7

Is SCCC providing the incarcerated individuals time outdoors for fresh air & sun?

Answer

Yards are reduced due to attempts at cohorting all movements possible by unit in an attempt to contain any contaminants or spread if/when the virus comes into the facility.

Additional Questions

Question 1

Per D. Sifres, how will the quarterly packages be distributed this year and are we anticipating an issues with the distribution?

Answer

QFP's will be delivered to the units for distribution; no issues are anticipated.

Question 2

Per D. Sifres, will we continue having our weekly meetings using the same information for today's call?

Answer

Yes, we will continue to use the call in information used for today's meeting and have weekly COVID-19 teleconferences.

Question 3

Per Co-Chair Fry, are yard and gym open at this time?

Answer

Yes, yard and gym were reopened yesterday (8-4).

Question 4

Per Co-Chair Fry, have classes resumed?

Answer

Yes classes are being put on call-out with smaller groups to include social distancing.

Question 5

Per Co-Chair Fry, what was the reason for both H1 individuals to be tested?

Answer

Because they were experiencing flu like symptoms.

Question 6

Per State Rep Cooksey, the families continue to receive reports from the population that the trays are still greasy and are not being properly cleaned before usage during mainline.

Answer

FSM Attard is addressing the trays and is monitoring as much as possible the cleaning process so that issues don't occur. FSM Attard will attend a future LFC teleconference as he is able.

Question 7

Per B. Duschene – The utensils are still dirty.

Answer

FSM Attard continues to monitor as much as possible to ensure the dishes and utensils are being cleaned properly. FSM Attard will attend a future LFC teleconference as he is able.

Question 8

Per B. Duschene – I have heard from multiple people that the individuals being transferred are not being tested twice for COVID-19. Does SCCC verify this somehow possibly through documentation?

Answer

All screening is done by the HQ transport team so that all transferring incarcerated individuals meet criteria before leaving their facility. "CRCC transfers – The entire incarcerated population at CRCC received double negative testing and were on lockdown for over a 2 week time period before being transferred out. All transferred individuals were negative for the COVID-19 virus."

Question 8

Per B. Duschene – The video visits are getting interrupted when the units are being celled in. Will this continue to happen?

Answer

Staff were informed to allow video visits to continue when celling in the pod for mainline.

Question 9

Per K. Stuart Stevenson, I would like to request that those incoming transfers be quarantined for an additional 14 days after arriving at SCCC to ensure the best results at keeping COVID-19 out of this facility.

Answer

Associate Penrose will forward this request to the ICP for response during next week's teleconference. SCCC will continue to follow directives from our unified ICP at HQ's. We will not separate individuals coming from another institution unless symptoms arise and we will not separate the day court appearances or hospital trips.

Question 10

Per S. Wade, will there be an incoming chain next week and do we know who is on the list?

Answer

Yes there is an incoming chain next week, but those that are on the bus are screened by the HQ Transport Team. SCCC has no control over the incoming transport.

Question 11

Per L. Taylor, are CI workers from all the units going to work?

Answer

Yes, the CI workers are able to socially distance themselves when performing their work duties, unlike the Food Services workers who work in tight quarters. We are in the process of cohorting the Kitchen workers due to the fact that social distancing cannot be reasonably accommodated in the Kitchen area.

Question 12

Per V. Westman, does SCCC have a protocol in place for disasters?

Answer

Yes, we are always prepared but protocols are dependent upon the situation at hand.

Question 13

Per V. Westman, what testing protocol does SCCC use to test for the COVID-19 virus?

Answer

We use the same protocol as the DOH. We use 2 double nasal swab tests for testing our population.

Question 14

Per J. Triggs, my husband had to be moved to another unit as he is on the outside work crew and is not very happy having to not only work with these individuals, but now has to reside with them as well. Why was this done for that small amount of workers?

Answer

It was decided to cohort the outside work crew to one unit so that if the virus were to be spread, the amount of people that could contract the virus would be much smaller than the total amount of SCCC's population. The safety of our population here is our number one consideration when it comes to COVID-19.

Question 15

Per B. Duschene – Why are the incarcerated individuals that previously were positive for the COVID-19 virus still being transported to SCCC?

Answer

Incoming transport has been reduced to only essential transfers due to COVID-19. Sometimes incarcerated individuals are transferred due to medical reasons and sometimes it is due to needing a bed.

Comments/Closing – After the meeting it was realized that we missed some questions from last week that we will provide answers for during next week's teleconference.