Local Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

Call Details
Facility: Washington Corrections Center for Women
Date and Time: 09/23/2020, 12:00PM

Attendees
- Jason Rice, Cindy Robinson, Susan Sherman, Janet Moriarty

Weekly Update
- Data
  - Current facility numbers, including pregnant women and babies? Current population 745 with 5 pregnant I/I facility wide. 2 moms/2 babies participating in RPP.
  - Are any of these women in units that are quarantined or locked down? No
  - How many are federal prisoners? 0
- Transfers
  - How many transfers-in are related to Community Violations? A percentage would be fine.
- Health/Medical
  - Numbers in isolation/quarantine? 5 in ISO 2 in quarantine.
  - Which units have women in quarantine? SEG, IPU, CCU
  - Numbers tested? We test everyone that comes into the facility via intake twice. Everyone who presents with symptoms twice and anyone who is on quarantine twice. We are also testing every staff weekly.

Pre-Submitted Questions

Question 1
Recovery/Re-open: We have seen the information from the Statewide Family Council related to reinstating visitation. Can you tell us what phase WCCW is in or when WCCW will be able to implement phase 2?

Answer
- Greetings, DOC.WA.GOV has a tab with information. Per DOC.WA.GOV, the department of corrections is in step 1. There is no effective dates in place for next steps.

Question 2
Are there any updates related to when outside partners will be allowed back into the facility? Will it coincide with the visitation phases?

Answer
- No, this is part of the phase-in process and HQ is overseeing the process and it will not coincide with the visitation phases.
Question 3
Programming: Can Ms. Zimmerman give an update on events planned? She spoke to this at the regular LFC meeting and we’re just looking for a quick update.

Answer
- Ms. Zimmerman is away from the facility this week and is unable to report out.

Question 4
Facility: Please give us an update on the staff testing.

Answer:
- As of 9/23/2020 we have completed 118 and 353 for the week. Grand total since the beginning 2,920. We have 235 pending results. 1 positive case and 1 mapped out.

Question 5
We would like to discuss the recent quarantine of K unit and several pods of MSU. We are concerned that the quarantining process is still somewhat chaotic.

Answer
- No individual or baby was refused water and was not limited to one cup, under normal circumstances they have access to their own kitchen as well as filtered water for both themselves and their children. The officer was trying to ensure that we isolated and contained the unit until we could identify iso/quarantined individuals in order to prevent any spread.

Question 6
In RPP unit, the women (moms) were not allowed to get water or use rest rooms even after cease movement was lifted. The officer in that unit did not allow the women in that area to get more than one cup of water as they prepared for bed. We’re concerned that this denial of sufficient water jeopardizes the women’s health and mom’s need access to the rest rooms.

Answer
- There were no individuals or babies refused water and was not limited to one cup. Under normal circumstances they have access to their own kitchen as well as filtered water for both themselves and their children. The officer was trying to ensure that we isolated and contained the unit until we could identify ISO/quarantined individuals in order to prevent any spread.

Question 7
Can you discuss the changes being proposed to the women making masks of their own? We have heard there is consideration of only allowing the women to use masks issued by WCCW? Why is that?

Answer
- Incarcerated individuals who have crafting permits are allowed to make masks for themselves. This has not changed, nor has it been discussed to take it away.
- They are not allowed to make masks for anyone else inside the facility.
- The masks must meet the same criteria as the masks being issued from the facility.
Question 8
With changes or limitations at CI related to COVID shifting priorities – the women are expressing concern that they are being issued more men’s clothing which doesn’t fit well. Is this happening and what can be done to ensure the women have clothing that is gender specific?

Answer

Comments/Closing
Shower protocol clarification for those on medical isolation status. There are no showers until Day 7, but after that, showers can be on a normal schedule that can be managed at the facility.