



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
PRISONS DIVISION

P. O. Box 41118 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1118

April 13, 2020

TO: All Incarcerated Individuals at Stand-Alone and Co-Located Camps

FROM: Julie Martin, Deputy Secretary *J. Martin*
Robert Herzog, Assistant Secretary *R. Herzog*

SUBJECT: Increasing Abilities for Social Distancing

Every person in the country is having to modify and change how they live and adjust to new behaviors such as social distancing to protect themselves and others. The temporary loss of typical comforts to further advance protective measures is an unselfish act that every person is capable of making. We understand the disruption and anxiousness this may create for individuals, but we are committed to finding ways to help mitigate the disruption to normal activities. All of us are in this together and even though the circumstances in which you live make it more difficult, your sacrifices are just that much greater of a personal commitment.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) continues to indicate that social distancing, or keeping space between yourself and others, is one of the best tools we have to avoid exposure to the COVID-19 virus, and in slowing the spread. The Department is taking steps to ensure better opportunities for social distancing at our facilities, especially in efforts to further protect our populations. This includes modifying areas to add additional living space.

To help flatten the curve in regards to the spread of COVID-19, this implementation will be swift. Health Services and Prisons staff will be working in a unified manner in order to collaborate with incarcerated individuals to ensure living spaces better meet social distancing criteria.

As we modify areas into additional living space, we will first ask for volunteers willing to move. If we run out of volunteers, you may be instructed to move into one of the new additional living spaces. Your facility management will inform you of those areas that are being modified for additional living space. These moves are critical in providing as safe an environment as possible for you and we ask that you cooperate in this effort.

Those being relocated to other areas will be allowed to take their personal property with them. We understand this may create some issues; however, facilities are working to find solutions to make the moves as comfortable as possible.

“Working Together for SAFE Communities”