March 19, 2020

Participants

Brittany Rhee (CRCC)

Jennifer Bright (FEPPS)

Jennifer Tillford (CCCC)

Stephanie Sanderson (LCCC)

Diedra Cunningham (WA Defenders Association and Incarcerated Parents)

Matthias Gyde (OCO)

Julie Triegs (SCCC)

Carolina Landa (OCO)

Josephine Johnson (WSR)

Susan Cooksey (SCCC)

Elisabeth Kingsbury (OCO)

Kehaulani Walker (CRCC)

Wendy Dubinsky (WSP)

Dave and Jody Bullard (TRU)

Janet Floyd (CBCC)

Felix D’Allesandro (WSR)

Caitlin Robertson (OCO)

Loren Taylor (SCCC)

Angee Schrader (OCO)

Paige Perkinson (DOC)

Paula Bond (WCCW)

Suzanne Cook (TRU)

Katie Wilks (SCCC)

Holly Phillips (CBCC)

EV Webb (OCO)

Jeremy Barclay (DOC)

(59 total participants – not all listed)

Update

* Still only the three confirmed staff, no incarcerated people testing positive for covid.

Start with some of the questions earlier this week.

* Can families purchase extra immunity boosters? Yes, the Commissary is still open and functional. Super-C and all of the other vitamins is available with a 20 per order limit.
* WSR C unit was told that they could not use their phones – not verified. Calls should be able to go out.
* Phone calls are continuing; no changes to fees. The Secretary and others are working with GTL and JPAY to reduce the costs or to provide the option of free calls during the week. We’re hoping to announce something within 24 hours.
* WCCW – with regard to women being quarantined. Each facility is conducting flu testing. Three women were confirmed as having the flu. Their covid tests came back as negative. The facility has quarantining those women.
* With regard to Yakima, how many women are at Yakima? 20 women. Who is in charge of the women? At this time, Associate Superintendent Bill Swain is leading the charge on a myriad of different situations, including monitoring the women at YCJ. There are no transfers planned at this time. The women continue to be healthy with no reports of illness as of this afternoon. In the meantime, the county is keeping the women away from the general population and continue to do their usual cleaning protocols to maintain the health of the women.
* Attorney visits still being allowed? All contractors and attorneys are using the same screening process as staff, which includes the verbal screening and the temperature reading.
* What are we doing to make sure that staff are not bringing it in? Five screening questions and a temperature reading.
* Are work crews still being sent out? DNR work crews with no community interaction are still being allowed to go into the forest for planting. Cedar Creek is allowed to send crews to McNeil Island for operations there and Olympia is approved to send a crew to Clallam Bay. Otherwise community work crews are not authorized at this time so as to maintain safe facility and separation of entities.
* With regard to cleaning solutions, all prisons, work releases, and administrative and community corrections offices have instituted a high touch surfaces – telephones, doors, COVID-19 and hygiene related materials. We are stressing the washing of hands with soap and water – that is what is being touted by the CDC so we are continuing to push that message to everyone.
* Hand sanitizer was authorized for use by employees, visitors, etc, and has been placed in areas where soap and water is not readily available. Incarcerated individuals have access to hand sanitizer upon request. CDC has stressed that regular household cleaners are sufficient. There was a question yesterday about hepastat at CBCC. We reached out to CBCC about the question. The kitchen at CBCC continues to use diluted bleach. Medical areas are also using disinfectant wipes. They are using CP205 in all offender areas as approved by CDC recommendations. Hepastat is used but that is not a primary cleaner, dining hall, etc, those being used are CDC recommended cleaners.
* With regard to supplementing staff, the agency does have emergency plans. We are not yet at the level of emergency staffing plans, but we do plan to update those and implement them as necessary.
* Testing for COVID-19, DOC is doing tests for COVID-19. We are collecting the number of tests that we’re doing at the facilities and our hope is to have solid numbers so that you can feel more informed in terms of the number of tests that have been conducted and then you’ll know when we talk about people testing negative. No positive tests. No numbers today, but hopeful to have those numbers soon – people are working on getting those numbers and making sure that they’re right.
* No immediate information regarding the re-instatement of visitation.

Questions from the group

* Kehaulani – there are no free phone calls? Some are providing them? Jeremy said that there has been no established announcement yet to talk about what the free phone calls will look like.
* At CBCC, the incarcerated asked the COs for hand sanitizer and the COs laughed in their face and said that they are not allowed to have hand sanitizer.
* AHCC – as of 2:30 pm, hand sanitizer is not being offered to inmates, soap is not offered unless it’s being purchased through the commissary, hepastat is the only cleaner being used.
* The Super-C is available – what about people who are indigent, any additional immunity boosters that are being offered to those individuals?
* They’re wiping down phones maybe twice a day, nothing is being offered to the inmates, no hand sanitizer, no precautionary measures, there was an inmate taken to an outside hospital, and when he was returned, he was not given any temperature check, but the officers were. When officers are being asked about precautions, they’re getting ignored. The water in L unit is freezing cold, which is deterring people from washing their holds.
* Felix shared that there is some cleaning in Monroe – WSR, but some inmates are hoarding what is available.
* After inmates are out and about and could be given some bleach and monitored and issued out hand sanitizer.
* Recommendation to stop all transfers. Need to give out PPE to all incarcerated people. Is PPE available at the facilities?
* Show proof that they have hand sanitizer and that they have enough?