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Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Juvenile and Adult Facility Residents and Family Members

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Date: May 19, 2021

Re: Coronavirus and KDOC updates

I am pleased to inform you that all KDOC facility medical services have now completed reaccreditation through the American Correctional Association (ACA). Audits were conducted in March and April 2021, with results of 100% compliance on both mandatory and non-mandatory standards. These outstanding results are made possible by the dedication and professionalism of our medical providers, Centurion, and medical staff. A big *Thank You* and *Congratulations* to them for this achievement.

I'd like to take a moment and highlight a group that diligently works behind the scenes, day in and day out, and our organization simply could not operate without them. That group is our maintenance/custodial staff. They fulfill a function that directly contributes to the health and safety of everyone. Be it perimeter fences, backup generators, locking systems, or general maintenance of the buildings, the daily efforts of these dedicated individuals make a difference. Thank you to folks serving in maintenance groups in our facilities for your contributions to the KDOC Vision of *Transforming Lives for the Safety of All!*

The KDOC Systems Management Team (SMT) met last Thursday for the day, focusing some time on implementation of our strategic plan, *Pathway for Success*. SMT members include facility wardens and the KJCC superintendent, parole regional directors plus leaders and managers from central office. *Pathway for Success* is not an event or something we are "gearing up" for. The challenge is to incorporate our new vision into how we conduct our daily business, and to expect the strategic plan to guide our work. We need to explore and implement new programs and practices that help everyone involved. And we must do this while keeping the highest standards for safety and security. We must have a sense of urgency. We can't move at the speed of government, which as many of you know can be painfully slow much of the time. We are beginning to see some early success stories, and I look forward to sharing some of these with you at a later date.

One area of particular interest to our residents and their families is our education and job training programs. There are thousands of jobs open in our state, and KDOC releases close to 6,000 individuals each year. These individuals are part of our state's workforce solution, but we must prepare individuals for success upon release, and provide education, training and skill building to take advantage of these opportunities.

KDOC continues to follow the guidance of the CDC and KDHE regarding wearing masks and other COVID-19 mitigation protocols in our facilities. Our number of COVID-19 positive cases remains low, and I thank you for your continuing understanding and cooperation. We closely monitor both staff and resident numbers in addition to vaccination numbers. These are shared with you on Mondays and Thursdays in separate messages and posted on our website.