

## **All Residents at Lansing Correctional Facility**

After weeks of challenges to obtaining an adequate supply of tests, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is beginning to receive long overdue supplies. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, over 70 Lansing Correctional Facility (LCF) staff members and more than 70 LCF residents have tested positive for the virus.

Beginning April 20, the facility was able to increase testing through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and earlier this week, 240 men from the Primewood open-dormitory living unit were tested for the virus. Polymerase chain reaction nasal swab tests were used, and based upon early results, approximately 75 percent of initial testing samples were found to be positive and asymptomatic.

Now that we can confirm through testing, that we have a number of asymptomatic persons just much like public health officials are discovering in the community, we must now implement additional measures in response to the virus.

Today we have implemented a facility wide quarantine out of necessity for the health and safety of everyone in the facility. We recognize it will be difficult for you and is far from your normal routine, and stressful on your loved ones. As has been our experience with the evolving nature of the virus, things may need to change, but we anticipate the following impact:

- The quarantine will run for a minimum of 14 days
- Everyone will be tested before that quarantine is lifted
- During this time, it is more important than ever that you report your needs and any symptoms to staff
- Meals will be delivered to you
- Showers, recreation, phones, JPAY, and tablet access will be available one hour each day
- Any movement will be limited to urgent needs, and done individually or in small cohorts whenever possible
- No one will be allowed to work

- This quarantine is being implemented after consultation with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) which will continue for the duration
- We will distribute this information to your loved ones via JPAY and on the KDOC public website
- This is TEMPORARY. As the virus has evolved necessitating changes in our response, our goal has never changed. We want you to be safe, and to have a normal level of activity, work, recreation and communication

Your communication to and with staff is vital to our collective success. We fully understand this is stressful and will require patience by everyone. Again, please report your needs to staff and I thank you for your assistance during the quarantine.

Shannon Meyer  
Warden