

Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Juvenile and Adult Facility Residents

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Date: April 16, 2020

Re: Coronavirus Updates

Since our first confirmed case of the COVID-19 virus within the Kansas Department of Corrections, 36 staff members and 29 residents have tested positive at Lansing Correctional Facilities. There remains only a single resident from Wichita Work Release Facility (WWRF) who has tested positive, and he continues to be housed at LCF. We continue to monitor the population from WWRF at both the quarantine unit at Lansing, as well as those who remain under observation at the facility in Wichita. There are 126 residents in medical quarantine at LCF who have not shown symptoms but are being monitored. An additional four residents have cleared the quarantine period and been released back into general population.

Despite the growing number of positive cases that we're seeing, we've had many unsung heroes over the past five weeks. I plan to recognize as many of them as I can throughout my messages to you.

Our partners at Kansas Department of Health and Environment have been a great asset to us during this time. The person they assigned to assist us has decades of experience working with infectious disease. His sole focus is on assisting KDOC in managing the virus and he has played an integral part in providing guidance on disease containment and mitigation in our facility operations. I've heard and seen that our team is very receptive to his direction and we are thankful to have him on board.

The staff at Kansas Correctional Industries and the resident workers who have helped with the mask and gown production have been working around the clock. Women at Topeka Correctional Facility and men at Hutchinson Correctional Facility have been working for more than a week now to crank out more than 20,000 masks that have been distributed, two per person, to each staff member and resident at every KDOC facility, Central Office and our Parole Offices. I'm sure their fingers are sore and tired, but with the national shortage of personal protective equipment, their work has been invaluable to ensuring increased safety measures for those that we serve. Thank you to everyone at KCI! Our staff and residents are being encouraged to wear their masks when social distancing is not possible, but KDHE does not recommend wearing them at all times.

We know that you are anxious and fearful of the unknown. Our staff are working to increase communication to you and your loved ones to help ease those fears. Please continue to wash your hands frequently and keep space between yourself and others, whenever possible.