

Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Juvenile and Adult Facility Residents and Family Members

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Date: April 17, 2020

Re: Coronavirus Updates

Just as the state and country are seeing an increased number of COVID-19 cases, so are we. Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Secretary Lee Norman indicated earlier this week that the peak of the virus in Kansas may not occur until the end of April. Even then, we will remain diligent in our efforts to keep ourselves and our residents safe.

As of this morning, the total number of COVID-19 positive cases that we've seen include 36 staff at Lansing Correctional Facility (LCF), 29 residents at LCF, and one Wichita Work Release Facility resident, currently housed at LCF.

Our medical personnel are working hard to keep up with the growing demand. They have assisted us in eliminating the typical sick-call process for those who are presenting with COVID-19 symptoms. This is helping to expedite testing, diagnosis and treatment. Their counterparts at the Kansas National Guard have also been helpful in ensuring ongoing monitoring of our residents in quarantine. Thank you to our medical staff and National Guard personnel for their efforts. Many of you have wondered how you will find out if your loved one is diagnosed with COVID-19. Our medical team will call the emergency contact listed in the resident's information. We would ask that the emergency contact person share important updates with other family members as our team will not be able to update anyone who does not have a release of information form on file. We understand that might be frustrating for some, but the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires us to protect a patient's health information. Thank you for your understanding.

Many of you know that we have been going through the process of selecting a medical provider as our current contract with Corizon Health expires at the end of June. Department of Administration has concluded the process of procurement of a new contract and today we are announcing that the new contract will be awarded to Centurion of Kansas, LLC. We will be working closely with the Corizon and Centurion teams over the coming months to ensure a smooth transition. I appreciate the Corizon staff who are working throughout our system to provide healthcare services to our population. They work hard and play an important role in our facilities, especially during challenging times like those we are currently experiencing.

On a final note, Governor Kelly officially extended the state-wide stay home order until May 3rd. I know for many of us that is disheartening as we want to return to our normal lives and our standard visitation schedule. We want that for you, as well. We will continue to follow KDHE guidance and base our decisions on what will keep everyone safe. Thank you for your patience during this time.