

Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Juvenile and Adult Facility Residents and Family Members

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Date: May 4, 2020

Re: Coronavirus Updates

As we mentioned last week, there is a lot going on within the Kansas Department of Corrections.

Last week we announced an El Dorado Correctional Facility staff member who tested positive and today we share that an Ellsworth Correctional Facility staff member has tested positive along with a Hutchinson Correctional Facility (HCF) resident. The HCF resident was recently transferred from Lansing Correctional Facility (LCF) due to safety and security measures. When he arrived at HCF, he was immediately taken to a negative air-flow room in the infirmary and was still there when he tested positive. Following his positive test, he was moved back to LCF for monitoring and treatment of his symptoms.

I visited LCF over the weekend and had the opportunity to speak individually with a number of staff and residents. Folks are certainly anxious in this very challenging time and I had the opportunity to answer their questions which I hope helps set people's minds at ease. One of our current challenges is that with the facility-wide quarantine at LCF, we have lost our labor pool of resident workers. As a result, over the weekend as part of our pandemic plan, we had to implement sack lunches. I want you to know that we are working on getting a new routine in place to return to hot meals.

Testing continues at LCF. Testing 1,900 people takes time, but we look forward to wrapping that process up by the end of the week. As part of the testing process, we will find ourselves with several different groupings of people: those who tested negative, those who tested asymptomatic positive, and those who are positive and have symptoms. Our next step of this process will be refining a process for how to house larger groups of people based on the test results. Once our plan is finalized, we will share it with you. In the meantime, you may get word from your loved one that they have been moved to a new unit or area of their facility. Please know that when we move people, we are doing this in close consultation with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and have each person's health and safety in mind.

The below current information regarding positive COVID-19 cases reflects a large increase due to the testing that has begun. As you can see in this data, the largest portion of the positive cases are persons who are asymptomatic. These numbers reflect totals accumulated over time.

Staff

- 88 LCF staff positive
- 3 TCF staff positive
- 1 KJCC staff positive
- 1 NCF staff positive (reassigned to LCF)
- 1 EDCF staff positive
- 1 ECF staff positive

- 74 staff in isolation (at home) and being monitored for symptoms
- 22 staff have recovered and returned to work

Resident Isolation (those who have tested positive for COVID-19)

- 385 LCF residents positive (289 asymptomatic)
- 3 WWRF residents positive
- 2 TCF residents positive
- 41 residents positive in isolation and being monitored
 - 4 of the 41 residents are in the hospital being monitored
- 52 residents have recovered and returned to general population
- 3 LCF resident deaths

Resident Quarantine (those who have been in contact with a positive case, but have no symptoms)

- 265 residents in quarantine and being monitored for symptoms
- 60 residents cleared quarantine and returned to general population

Just as our staff are concerned for their families' during this time, we know that you are concerned for your loved one. We will work diligently to ensure their health and safety and to be responsive to you in your questions and concerns. We're in this together.