



Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Juvenile and Adult Facility Residents and Family Members
From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary
Date: November 12, 2020
Re: Coronavirus Updates

Yesterday – Wednesday, November 11, 2020 – was of course Veterans Day. We don't say it often enough: thank you veterans for your service! This day is set aside as a national day of tribute to those men and women whose unselfish service and sacrifice continues to benefit us all. The date comes to us through the history of WWI, when at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month major hostilities formally ended in 1918. Fast forward one hundred plus years, and we pause on November 11, 2020 to honor both our retired and active duty military personnel. We have many veterans among our staff, our families and our residents. I would like to personally thank our veterans for your service to our country and for giving your time and your talents in support of our mission. Thank you!

Our communities continue to see increasing numbers COVID-19 cases. We are not alone in that fact, unfortunately, as numbers continue to climb across the nation and throughout the world. I believe that the stress caused by this ongoing public health crisis will likely increase during the upcoming holiday season. The holiday season can be very stressful and it will affect all of us in some way. However, our residents who are cut off from family visitations and social activities within our facilities will perhaps feel the impact more than others. Recognizing that, we are encouraging our staff and residents to extend an extra measure of care and compassion for each other to help get through these times.

As we are about to move through the season, let's be mindful of the stress placed upon us all that the virus coupled with those holidays will bring. It would be tempting during this time to let down our guard and abandon those practices that we know make a difference in the spread of the virus. Each of us must remain vigilant, and together we can and will get through this. In the meantime, wear your mask, practice social distancing wherever and whenever possible, wash your hands frequently and report any symptoms to the staff at your facility. Public healthcare officials predict an even greater spread of the virus as a result of gatherings over Thanksgiving and Christmas. Let's all agree to play a role in helping reduce the rate of spread.

Over the course of the next few weeks KDOC, under the guidance and oversight of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) will incorporate a less invasive COVID-19 test utilizing a saliva based versus the current nasal swab style test to ease testing anxiety and fatigue when faced with subsequent or even multiple testing schedules. We are very excited to incorporate this as an additional mitigation strategy and are very thankful for the hard work by staff at KDHE to bring this option into the KDOC.

On the below data, this week you will notice a change as for the first time some of our residents being housed out of state have tested positive for the virus. That resident data will be included from here forward.

Staff Positive Cases 11/11/20

- 18 EDCF staff positive (78 cumulative)
- 13 ECF staff positive (37 cumulative)
- 55 HCF staff positive (153 cumulative)
- 4 LCF staff positive (124 cumulative)
 - 2 LCF staff deaths
- 1 LCMHF staff positive (46 cumulative)
- 22 NCF staff positive (82 cumulative)
- 10 TCF staff positive (24 cumulative)
 - 1 TCF staff death
- 6 WCF staff positive (21 cumulative)
- 3 WWRF staff positive (10 cumulative)
- 5 KJCC staff positive (24 cumulative)

Resident Positive Cases 11/11/20 and Yes or No if Currently Housing Positive Residents

- 57 EDCF residents positive (641 cumulative) Yes
- 54 ECF residents positive (370 cumulative) No
 - 2 ECF resident deaths
- 207 HCF residents positive (1182 cumulative) Yes
 - 2 HCF resident death
- 4 LCF residents positive (986 cumulative) Yes
 - 4 LCF resident deaths
- 2 LCMHF residents positive (344 cumulative) No
 - 1 LCMHF resident death
- 152 NCF residents positive (646 cumulative) No
- 0 TCF residents positive (12 cumulative) No
- 33 WCF residents positive (140 cumulative) No
- 0 WWRF residents positive (81 cumulative) No
- 1 KJCC resident positive (5 cumulative) Yes
- 4 out of state resident positive (4 cumulative) Yes