

Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Juvenile and Adult Facility Residents and Family Members

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Date: November 4, 2020

Re: Coronavirus Updates

I want to start this message with a thank you to our residents who have taken the opportunity to get an influenza (flu) shot in recent weeks. While a shot isn't necessarily fun for anyone, it is a simple means to protect yourself and those around you from the flu. As of yesterday, 63% of those who've had the opportunity have taken the shot, an increase from recent years where we see at or less than 50%, with a range by facility from 49% to 90%. Not everyone has had an opportunity yet, this is another item that the coronavirus makes more difficult, so if you have not, please ask you facility health team about getting a shot as there are still opportunities.

From that positive news to the sad news. Since the message last week, we have seen two additional residents pass after having tested positive for corona virus. We lost a Hutchinson resident last Thursday and an Ellsworth resident on Monday. I hope each of you will join me in keeping them and their families in our thoughts and prayers.

You may remember that a few weeks ago I mentioned we were undertaking a series of focus groups as part of our strategic planning process which will chart our course for the next few years. With our partners who are facilitating the process, we recently completed a listening tour of 10 virtual focus groups with 65 participants representing our staff, community partners, juvenile and adult residents, family members, former residents, and leaders from parole offices, facilities and central office. A special focus group was also conducted around the topic of diversity, equity and inclusion which provided important feedback and suggestions highlighting ways we can improve in these areas. Each group also looked at our mission and vision by answering the question, "What would the best correctional system look like?"

The common themes were not surprising for a large organization, including improving communications, developing our staff and enhancing training, while also exploring our capacity to change and organizational culture. Examples were shared from each of these areas on what is working well along with areas where we can do better. Those comments provided great feedback, suggestions and ideas on ways we can improve. I want to thank everyone who participated. It is clear each participant provided thoughtful, honest feedback and comments.

Last week, we brought together via Zoom leaders from across our department for a two-day virtual retreat to discuss the feedback from focus groups and begin development of a new

strategic plan for KDOC. Our strategic plan will clarify who we are and what we value as well as serve as a springboard for us to do even greater things. You'll be hearing more about this as we continue to develop the plan.

Finally, I'll close this week with the announcement of two recent grant awards that will expand the programs available to our residents.

The first being a grant we received from the Department of Justice through the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) to support substance abuse programming and case management for 150 residents in restrictive housing at El Dorado and Lansing correctional facilities. The grant is for \$996,679 and will partner KDOC with the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) to expand and improve our adult reentry program over the next four years.

The second grant by U.S. Department of Education provides \$2,229,125 million in Pell funding for residents to attend one of seven Kansas colleges who received these funds. The funding will enable approximately 700 residents to participate in credit-bearing Career Technical Education (CTE) programs in addition to associate and four-year degrees. The colleges will deliver 25 programs in eight KDOC correctional facilities. Certifications will be offered in areas such as welding, solar energy and photovoltaic, wind technology and business management. Associate degrees will be offered in general studies, applied science, business, networking and office administration. Bachelor's degrees will be offered in science health information systems management, computer information systems and integrated studies.

These are two recent examples of how we are focused on finding new and better ways to give our residents opportunities to develop the skills they need to be successful once they leave us.

Staff Positive Cases 11/4/20

- 5 EDCF staff positive (60 cumulative)
- 6 ECF staff positive (27 cumulative)
- 37 HCF staff positive (117 cumulative)
- 2 LCF staff positive (121 cumulative)
 - 2 LCF staff deaths
- 0 LCMHF staff positive (45 cumulative)
- 31 NCF staff positive (64 cumulative)
- 3 TCF staff positive (16 cumulative)
 - 1 TCF staff death
- 1 WCF staff positive (15 cumulative)
- 0 WWRF staff positive (10 cumulative)
- 5 KJCC staff positive (23 cumulative)

Resident Positive Cases 11/4/20 and Yes or No if Currently Housing Positive Residents

- 11 EDCF residents positive (588 cumulative) Yes
- 157 ECF residents positive (344 cumulative) No
 - 2 ECF resident deaths
- 134 HCF residents positive (982 cumulative) Yes

- 2 HCF resident death
- 6 LCF residents positive (986 cumulative) Yes
 - 4 LCF resident deaths
- 1 LCMHF residents positive (342 cumulative) No
 - 1 LCMHF resident death
- 241 NCF residents positive (521 cumulative) No
- 0 TCF residents positive (12 cumulative) No
- 34 WCF residents positive (107 cumulative) No
- 0 WWRF residents positive (81 cumulative) No
- 1 KJCC resident positive (5 cumulative) Yes