

Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Juvenile and Adult Facility Residents and Family Members

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Date: October 21, 2020

Re: Coronavirus Updates

This week the headlines from Kansas, nationally and internationally are calling our attention to the current COVID-19 trends, and the concern that we may be seeing the fall surge some have been forecasting for many months. Among them are stories of hospitals in Hutchinson, Pittsburg, Hays and Kansas City that are being burdened by the number of cases of the virus in their community or region, not unlike their peers in states like Wisconsin, Michigan and Illinois. Other materials in the media reflect the near record increases in new cases per day being seen in Kansas, and that 15 counties in the northwest corner of the state have seen an increase of nearly 49% in new cases the past two weeks. This while Friday October 17th marked the first time that the worldwide rise in cases exceeded 400,000 in a single day. Our experience in correctional facilities mirrors this trend, we have seen an increase in positive resident cases from 308 on September 23rd to 448 on October 21st, which today reflects 5.2% of our 8,637 adult residents, and from 12 to 48 staff over the same period. Today we have 9 residents in community hospitals with health issues associated with the virus.

This information can quickly become overwhelming; it is not the news any of us would have hoped we would hear 8 months into this pandemic. Each of us can make a difference for our community, our workplace or place of residence, our families and ourselves. To do so requires us to remain vigilant in our personal actions, on and off duty, and in our place of residence. That requires each of us to reduce contact, or not have contact at all, with friends and family, forgo group activities that we enjoy and wear a mask, sometimes in settings where others are not.

It also requires us to overcome our own very real feelings of what some are calling pandemic fatigue. This has been described as restlessness that people experience after months of changes brought on by COVID-19. Some feel the need to revert to pre-pandemic activities to cope with the changes and may be less likely to adhere to public health safety guidelines. Others may experience extreme changes in mood or energy levels, highs or lows, or be a little bit angrier or more irritable than normal.

All of you, along with our staff are experiencing this together, just as are fellow Kansans, Americans and those across the globe. And I offer to you my perspective, that the best path forward at KDOC is for each of us, each staff person, each resident, each family member, to do all that each of us can to remain vigilant in our individual response to this pandemic. Together you are over 4,100 employees and 8,600 residents and families who can make a difference in our experience with COVID-19 in the days and weeks ahead. If we cannot support

each other and apply the necessary pandemic specific precautions consistently, together we may have a much more challenging path ahead. Let's remain focused and vigilant in our efforts during the weeks and months to come.

I thank each of you for all that you have done, and for all that you will do in the future to help each other overcome this virus. I appreciate your efforts.

Staff Positive Cases 10/21/20

- 3 EDCF staff positive (54 cumulative)
- 9 ECF staff positive (21 cumulative)
- 26 HCF staff positive (77 cumulative)
- 3 LCF staff positive (120 cumulative)
 - 2 LCF staff deaths
- 1 LCMHF staff positive (45 cumulative)
- 17 NCF staff positive (26 cumulative)
- 0 TCF staff positive (13 cumulative)
 - 1 TCF staff death
- 2 WCF staff positive (14 cumulative)
- 0 WWRF staff positive (9 cumulative)
- 3 KJCC staff positive (14 cumulative)

Resident Positive Cases 10/21/20 and Yes or No if Currently Housing Positive Residents

- 48 EDCF residents positive (567 cumulative) Yes
- 32 ECF residents positive (155 cumulative) No
 - 1 ECF resident death
- 253 HCF residents positive (789 cumulative) Yes
- 11 LCF residents positive (979 cumulative) Yes
 - 4 LCF resident deaths
- 2 LCMHF residents positive (341 cumulative) No
 - 1 LCMHF resident death
- 175 NCF residents positive (250 cumulative) No
- 0 TCF residents positive (12 cumulative) No
- 43 WCF residents positive (70 cumulative) No
- 0 WWRF residents positive (81 cumulative) No
- 0 KJCC resident positive (4 cumulative) No