

714 S.W. Jackson St.  
Suite 300  
Topeka, KS 66603



Phone: (785) 296-3317  
Fax: (785) 296-0014  
kdocpub@ks.gov  
www.doc.ks.gov

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Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Juvenile and Adult Facility Residents and Family Members

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Date: December 8, 2021

Re: Coronavirus and KDOC updates

This time of year seems to bring more opportunities for giving and sharing, and I wanted to highlight a story from our Kansas Juvenile Correction Center. Each year during the holiday season the facility adopts two families and provides the gifts on each family's gift list. KJCC gives residents the opportunity to contribute as well by authorizing a withdrawal from their account for this purpose. The cut-off date for contributions in December 10, and through the generosity of some of the KJCC residents, facility staff said they may be able to adopt additional families this year.

The residents who have contributed thus far said they have people who help provide for them and take care of them during the holidays, and they want to be that person for someone else. This is such an uplifting story of how our juvenile residents have found a way to look beyond their own adversity to help others.

Yesterday we held a quarterly meeting of our the steering committee for our strategic plan, Pathway for Success. The four-hour meeting was filled with updates from the five SIT teams; Employee Environment, Population Environment, Communications, Resource Deployment, and Grant and Resource Attainment Literacy. There are now so many great ideas and plans in various stages of development, and I look forward to sharing more of the specific projects in the coming weeks. These will benefit us as an organization, our staff, our residents and others under KDOC authority. Ultimately, every change we make will contribute to our vision of *Transforming Lives for the Safety of All*.

As you know we publish our COVID-19 positive numbers on our website twice a week, Mondays and Thursdays and share them in memos emailed to you. In addition we share vaccination numbers each week. While the number of positive cases is no where near where it was a year ago, we still have active cases within our facilities. Many of you are now receiving COVID vaccination booster shots and flu vaccinations. Thank you for taking an active role in protecting your health and the health of others who you come into contact with.