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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 9, 2020  
Re: Coronavirus Updates

"Stop the Spread. It's Up to Us, Kansas" is a new public health campaign sponsored by Governor Laura Kelly and the State of Kansas. This is a rally cry for Kansans to take care of each other and their community by wearing a mask, social distancing when possible, avoiding large groups and washing hands frequently. We at KDOC want to protect the health and safety of our staff, residents and all individuals under our authority, and it is up to each of us to take personal responsibility by following the guidelines. The campaign also includes free testing. The Governor's office notes that more testing locations will be added on a weekly basis to cover both the rural and urban populations. For more information about the testing see [www.GoGetTested.com](http://www.GoGetTested.com).

I mentioned in last week's message we are planning to relocate our residents who have been housed in Arizona back to Kansas. In October 2019 KDOC transferred 120 residents to the Saguaro Correctional Center in Eloy, Ariz. KDOC's Deputy Secretary of Facilities and Chief of Security have been onsite in Arizona to meet with residents and staff as we prepare for the transition. COVID-19 testing continues to take place there with appropriate safety measures for those who test either positive or negative.

We are working with Governor Kelly's office and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) on details regarding access to a COVID-19 vaccine, including when specific individuals will be able to be vaccinated. Governor Kelly will provide weekly updates at her press conferences every Wednesday at 4 p.m., and weekly updates are also available on the KDHE website [www.kdheks.gov](http://www.kdheks.gov).

Our positive COVID-19 cases within KDOC fluctuate, rising in some areas and declining in others. However, the holidays present the very real possibility we will see an additional increase in positive cases at our facilities. Our resident and staff COVID-19 positive cases are posted twice a week on our website, Mondays and Thursdays by 5 p.m. at <https://www.doc.ks.gov/kdoc-coronavirus-updates/kdoc-covid-19-status>. This information is also emailed to residents and family members.

