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Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Juvenile and Adult Facility Residents and Family Members

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Date: July 14, 2021

Re: Coronavirus and KDOC updates

In the last few days, we have seen a slight uptick in COVID-19 positive numbers of staff and residents. Seven of nine facilities had one or more cases as of Monday of this week. We have not seen increases for many weeks thanks to your efforts, the availability of vaccines and the decline in the virus across the state and nation. But as you have probably seen in the media, cases are increasing in some states, including some of those near us.

As of now these are small and manageable numbers that can be contained if everyone will do their part to support and encourage each other to follow our mitigation protocols. We are all weary from the past eighteen months of the virus, but we must continue to be responsive to the demands this public health crisis places on us all.

In the data update from July 8 I shared with you the link to a communications survey as part of our Pathway for Success Strategic Implementation Team on Communications. As of yesterday afternoon, we have 495 responses. That's a great start, but we need to hear from everyone! Please take some time to respond by clicking the link below. Our residents can access the survey in facility resource rooms.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=AYGu3C3JDEi8Q8Z2HMzMWnh59a-CxN9AhpHFZIdjWGBUOEVPUEtUQjBDT1czVjUzR0VUSUpLNlZXRC4u>

The first two questions are required fields, each on a separate page, and once you have completed those the other survey questions appear on your screen. It will only take you a few minutes to complete the survey, and your input is incredibly valuable!

In closing, the state fair is an important part of Kansas heritage. The department of corrections has proudly sponsored an exhibit at the Kansas State Fair for decades, but the fair did not take place in the fall of 2020 because of the pandemic. Planning is underway for the 2021 Kansas State Fair September 10-19 in Hutchinson, and KDOC's display will focus on the history of our department.