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Family and Friends Newsletter|July 2020

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Missouri Department of Corrections

Family and Friends Newsletter | July 2020

Quarantine and Isolation

Isolation is used to separate people infected with the virus (those who are sick with COVID-19 and those with no symptoms) from people who are not infected. Isolation wings are utilized for offenders who test positive for COVID-19 and those who have had close contact with them. Staff who test positive or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive are isolated at home. Staff are required to wear PPE while in the isolation unit. Meals are delivered in the unit.

Quarantine is used to keep someone who might have had limited exposure away from others who are infected and others who have tested negative or who have not had contact with COVID-19. Offenders in the quarantined unit are fed in the dining room with others from their unit. The dining room is sanitized between each group of offenders. Offenders are required to clear their tray and submerse the tray in bleach water before it is handled by a food service worker.

The situation is ever evolving, so changes may be made to operations as deemed necessary.

Everyone is **encouraged** to wash their hands, avoid close contact with others, avoid touching face with unwashed hands, clean work/living area and wear the provided face coverings **as much as possible** in the unique institutional environment.

Constituent Services

For location and general information about an offender, please utilize the offender search.

For general information about operations, visit the Department of Corrections website.

For specific questions or concerns regarding an offender, please contact the offender's assigned case manager or Constituent Services at 573-526-2695.

If leaving a message, please be sure to include the offender's full name, location and, if available, Department of Corrections number.

COVID-Free Facilities Welcome Visitors

As the department continues mass COVID-19 testing at all facilities, we're beginning a gradual return to more normal operations at locations with no cases of the virus. Limited visiting is underway, with restrictions and by appointment only, at **Algoa Correctional Center, Maryville Treatment Center** and **South Central Correctional Center**. **Jefferson City Correctional Center** will resume restricted visiting on August 6. Call the facility to schedule an appointment at these facilities.

New restrictions are in place to protect health and safety:

- Visiting rooms are at **30% capacity**, and each offender's visitor(s) are spaced apart from other visitors

- All visitors must pass COVID-19 **screening** with a **temperature check** before entering the check-in area
- No visitors exhibiting **signs of illness**
- Maximum of **2 visitors** per offender
- Maximum of **2 visits** per month
- Visits restricted to **2 hours** in length with 45-minute break between visits to sanitize all surfaces
- **No minors** under age 18
- Any visitor or offender with a serious underlying **medical condition** should refrain from visiting
- All visitors, staff and offenders are required to wear a **face cover** or **mask** while in the visiting area
- Face covers are **inspected/searched** for contraband and must be lowered when entering/exiting for identification
- **No contact** between visitor and offender
- Visitors may use *beverage* vending machines only, one person at at time. **No drink sharing**.
- **No food** vending, microwaves, water fountain or sink use
- No offender on **quarantine status** may visit
- **No games** may be checked out
- **Children's areas** remain closed
- No **pictures**

Updates will be provided as available.

COVID Sentinel Testing

Mass testing of offenders and staff has been conducted at the following facilities and will continue at the rest of the state correctional centers over the next few weeks:

- Algoa Correctional Center
- Boonville Correctional Center
- Chillicothe Correctional Center
- Eastern Reception Diagnostic and Correctional Center
- Farmington Correctional Center
- Fulton Reception and Diagnostic Center
- Jefferson City Correctional Center
- Maryville Treatment Center
- Ozark Correctional Center
- South Central Correctional Center
- Southeast Correctional Center
- Tipton Correctional Center
- Women's Eastern Reception Diagnostic and Correctional Center
- Western Reception Diagnostic and Correctional Center

Thank you family and friends of incarcerated individuals for your patience during the pandemic. The Department has had to make tough decisions about operations in response to COVID-19 and your understanding is greatly appreciated. We recognize the impact has been difficult for you and your loved one. We look forward to gradually resuming operations as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, be safe, take care of yourself and please continue to provide encouragement to your loved one.

Missouri Department of Corrections

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