

HOUSE OF CORRECTION



Milwaukee County

Chantell Jewell • Superintendent

DATE: April 6, 2021

TO: Judiciary, Safety and General Services Committee

FROM: Superintendent Chantell Jewell

SUBJECT: From the Superintendent, House of Correction (HOC), providing an informational report regarding the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) public health emergency, and updates on confirmed employee and inmate cases at the HOC. **(INFORMATIONAL ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE)**

The House of Correction staff are doing well with managing the spread of COVID-19 within the facility. There are currently 860 individuals in custody, and none are positive. This count does include 391 individuals who are Felony Pretrial and another 228 who are awaiting transfer to the Wisconsin State Prison System. The Department of Corrections has committed to moving 40 residents for each of the next two weeks and thereafter, they will move 10 each week. There are currently 68 individuals in the community on electronic monitoring. Facility-wide staff testing was completed on 3/24 and 3/25 with no negative results. The Alternate Care Facility (ACF), remains vacant and there haven't been any formal requests to activate it. There are no staffing concerns currently. The next round of staff testing is scheduled for 4/7 and 4/8.

As of 3/1, the COVID-19 vaccine was made available to both staff and individuals in custody at the HOC. In addition to an education video, Wellpath has educated every dorm and offered to administer the vaccine on the spot if they wanted it. The residents that choose not to take the vaccine during this time are easily able to request it later by submitting a sick call slip. Wellpath also educates new residents as they come into the facility.

Below is a current breakdown of vaccinations given to date:

- There are currently 280 doses of the vaccine available at the HOC of which 120 are the Johnson and Johnson (J&J) single dose shots. Wellpath can request additional doses weekly
- 33.7% of the HOC staff have received the vaccine.
- There are 202 (23.5%) of residents who received the vaccine
- Residents who are released prior to their second shot will be provided with their immunization card, information to contact the health department, or given the opportunity to return to the HOC for the second dose of the vaccine. Individuals with upcoming release dates will be prioritized to receive the J&J vaccine.

As we continue to manage the spread of the virus, programming is still very limited. The visiting center will be reopened within the next several weeks which will help individuals stay connected to their loved ones. We are also exploring strategies that would allow us to safely reopen the Huber dorms.