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9/15/2020 @ OSCI

Hello friends and readers!

For those of you who are interested, I'm also posting the latest timeline of COVID-19 activity at OSCI at the end of this post.

Needless to say, not good news from the COVID front.

COVID-19 has once again been found in the WI DOC's largest institution....OSCI. An entire unit is currently on lockdown (Open Ctr). Six suspected cases there and two cases on R-Bldg have been quarantined. Based on the timing of the Open Ctr lockdown, it's highly likely at least one case is confirmed positive.

Reliably rumored that as of today, at least one guard from Open Center, two guards from K-Bldg, the Education Director and two Maintenance technicians, are out on quarantine. (The Ed Director is suspected of being on quarantine).

It's been further reported that the Sgt has been going to parties on the streets while ignoring the standing social guidelines, thus compromising the health and safety of 'persons in [his] care'.

Also, from a first hand conversation last month, the DOC Medical Staff were instructed not to issue Affidavits Supporting Compassionate Release unless the individuals symptoms on their own qualify without consideration of the pandemic. People at high risk are denied honest and complete opinions by their primary healthcare providers with potentially fatal results. That's bullshit, plain and simple.

I'm currently trying to get together enough 'evidence' to show my personal risk for the Coronavirus. I was lucky enough to have the following quote inserted in my primary healthcare provider's notes:

"[Patient Justich] asked me to put something in writing regarding his risk should he contract COVID-19. Given his asthma, hypertension and extreme obesity, it would be fair to say that he would be at increased risk for adverse outcomes, including the possibility of death, should he contract this infection."

Can't get clearer than that, right?

I'm also trying to get a separate opinion from an outside medical care provider to add support and depth to this opinion. Even if I can't secure a second opinion, I'm still gonna try again.

This is my life and things are getting closer to 'home' with guards from this unit on quarantine and our unit being the one that was able to mingle freely with Open Ctr on the Rec yard. I really hope they caught it before it jumped to my unit. I know myself and several others whose futures would not be looking good I'd that happened. Unfortunately, I also know several people under lockdown right now that probably in fear for their very lives. Scary stuff.

Alright guys and gals, stay safe and sane!

Tony

△△△ TIMELINE OF CORONAVIRUS @ OSCI △△△

Format: [code] [date] [event]

Codes:

- D - Date estimated, Confirmed event
- √ - Confirmed date & event
- ? - Rumor

ID Abbreviations:

- KC - Kevin Carr, DOC Secretary
- MF - Makda Fessahaye, DAI Administrator
- CJ - Cathy Jess, OSCI Warden
- ET - Emil Toney, OSCI Security Director

△△△ Start of Timeline for OSCI △△△
△△△ Coronavirus Pandemic, circa 2020 △△△

D 3/10 X-Bldg on lockdown, suspected cases; inmates begin being quarantined in Seg
√ 3/13 Memo of KC - claims no cases in DOC; non staff visits, religious services, volunteer programs suspended, day rooms
√ 3/16 Two free calls/wk
√ 3/19 Memo of MF - Informing of free calls
D 3/21 Puppy Parole: Majority of dogs from the Dog Program removed from the institution
? 3/21 Est. 2 dogs left in institution(rumored they're left due to health reasons)
D 3/29 X-Bldg off lockdown
√ 4/01 Barbershop closed
√ 4/02 No handball or basketball
√ 4/06 Modified library schedule (5 period/wk: 4 hr 15 mins total) posted
√ 4/06 Confirmed cases: 2; W-Bldg on lockdown
√ 4/08 Memo of CJ - Announced 2 Confirmed Cases; Rec yard limited to one unit at a time for 1 or 2 times a day, No Rec boxes, 2 to a table; Med pass slowed; Meals limited to 2 per table & wiped after each use; Social workers by request only; Day rooms limited movement;
D 4/08 Unit workers receive cloth masks

- √ 4/10 Memo of ET - Announcing non contact pat searches
- √ 4/14 Mass movement clearing out the bottom tier of a wing of R-Bldg for additional segregation (quarantine)
- √ 4/15 Memo of MF about facemasks; Handout of 4 paper facemasks to gen pop (20 days worth according to the memo)
- √ 4/16 Cases: 8 confirmed, 1 pending, 12 neg (from CBS News, never announced by DOC to gen pop)
- D 4/17 Handout of 1st cloth facemask to gen pop
- √ 4/18 Shortage of hand soap on some housing units
- √ 4/20 Handout of 2nd cloth facemask; 1st stamped envelope
- √ 4/23 Memo of MF - Waiving PRC requirements for geriatric/medical release (only posted at Library, never announced)
- √ 4/25 Another shortage of hand soap on some housing units
- ? 4/26 Bad Dog Revocation: Dogs (Est 3) now in inst. returned based on 'behavioral problems'
- √ 4/27 Kiosk deposit of .50¢ weekly starts
- √ 5/05 Our '20 days' of disposable masks expires; no replacements offered; cloth masks can only be exchanged on Fridays
- D 5/15 Some school (TABE testing, Horticulture, Building Maintenance & Construction) resumes
- √ 5/28 Memo of CJ informing us of mandatory testing by the National Guard for all inmates & staff for week of 5/30; also requires mandatory mask use starting May 31
- √ 5/31 Inmates and staff req'd to wear masks; still sporadic among staff
- √ 6/01 Mandatory mask wearing cancelled as testing gets rescheduled for the week of 6/7
- √ 6/03 Inter institution transfers resume. Dodge bus full of inmates arrived today around 9am and appx 15 guys were dropped off here. All were temperature checked upon arrival by a nurse.
- √ 6/07 Mandatory mask wearing begins again
- √ 6/09 Nat'l Guard starts testing
- √ 6/10 KC issues memo about death of George Floyd and that DOC condemns excessive force and failure to intervene to protect ppl.
- √ 6/11 Nat'l Guard done testing; First results come back: 1 positive case on Middle unit (D-Bldg), Entire unit quarantined and infected individual was removed to a different Unit (possibly Seg, R-Bldg or HSU but unknown right now)
- ? 6/12 Testing results of 1200 back: 1 positive, 200+ recovered
- √ 6/12 Kiosks/Wi-Fi goes out this afternoon
- √ 6/15 Wi-Fi back on; Mandatory mask wearing ends
- D 6/23 Rec boxes out on yard on limited basis (horseshoes, CornHole)
- √ 7/1 Free video visits begin
- D 7/6 Barbershop reopens
- √ 7/10 Memo of CJ saying mask wearing will be mandatory for staff and inmates
- √ 7/13 Mandatory mask wearing begins; Most of the Educational programs restart; 2-tiers of each Unit allowed in day rooms at a time
- D 7/14 Breaking Barriers with Books resumes
- √ 7/17 Yards times increase, 2 units out at a time in each field
- √ 7/30 Dayroom/outdoor tables can now have 4 ppl at them again (not including meal times); Basketball, softball & volleyball now allowed at Outdoor Rec

- ? 8/01 Two disposable masks handed out
- ? 8/01 Heatwave (doors mandated to be closed by Madison allegedly for PREA safety)
- ? 8/15 Dayroom times expanded to allow 1 wing of each unit out during morning and afternoons
- √ 8/18 Cloth masks on sale thru vendor
- √ 8/25 Medical staff confirms that Madison has ordered medical providers not to issue Affidavits/Letters Supporting Compassionate Release unless the individuals symptoms on their own (w/o consideration of COVID-19) qualify for Compassionate Release
- √ 9/14 Four individuals placed on quarantine from Open Center
- √ 9/15 Two more individuals placed on quarantine from Open Ctr; Open Ctr placed on lockdown