

COVID 19 Update - July 02, 2020

Hi all-

We had a number of things come together today, including some of the results from our mass testing, so I'll get right to it.

Mass Testing at ISCC: A short while ago, we received some results of our mass testing events. While we don't yet have complete results for E and H blocks, I wanted to share the results we do have. In E block, we collected 258 samples on June 29th. All 258 were symptom-free at the time of testing. 103 returned positive, 146 returned negative, and 9 tests are pending. All 103 of the people who tested positive remain asymptomatic, meaning that while they are positive for COVID-19, they have not developed any symptoms. E block is where the first 3 cases originated, and has been on medical quarantine since June 24th. Still, knowing the status of the rest of the people living on that unit, and elsewhere in the facility, helps us provide better care while protecting others.

In H block, we collected 316 samples in addition to 26 other samples from individuals believed to have had contact with a known positive. We received results on 92 samples and all 92 returned negative. On Monday, we'll have the rest of the results from H block, and we'll also continue mass testing events in the remaining living areas at ISCC throughout the week.

Also today, we received positive results on 4 additional incarcerated individuals at ISCC. All 4 individuals are asymptomatic but were targeted for proactive testing because our investigation determined they had contact with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19. We're going to continue being aggressive with our strategy of testing, tracing, and quarantining.

In total, we now have 12 incarcerated individuals who are COVID-19 positive with symptoms, and 107 asymptomatic positives.

Staff Testing Event: It isn't lost on us that while we're testing everyone who lives at ISCC, and rightly so, we have over 100 staff who have been directed to quarantine and many are unable to get tested because they don't have symptoms. We're going to remedy that starting next week. I'm excited to announce that we've partnered with Saltzer Health to conduct staff testing events for the S. Boise Complex. The first event will be next Tuesday and Thursday for all ISCC staff. We are working to schedule additional events for the remainder of the complex the following week, and we plan to make these regular events so long as COVID-19 continues to be actively spreading in the surrounding community. If you work in the S. Boise Complex, be on the lookout for additional details from HR or your facility.

We also received word today that two additional employees tested positive for COVID-19. Both individuals work at ISCC, one in security, and one in a non-security role. That brings our total to 36 positive cases in IDOC staff.

I know how tough this new environment is for everyone living and working in the S. Boise Complex. We're still ironing out some challenges, and we'll encounter more, but I want to thank all of you again for how you've responded.

Please stay safe, take care of yourself, and have a great Independence Day!

Thanks-
Josh