

COVID-19 Update - August 03, 2020

Hi all-

It's a Monday, and like most Monday's, I'm running a little behind. In this case, I have a good reason.

**Orchard Extension (OREX):** Earlier today, 83 guys were moved to the barracks at the Idaho Military Division's Orchard Combat Training Center located 18 miles south of Boise. We're referring to it as OREX for Orchard Extension. The 83 guys came primarily from ISCC. This is to create safe zones and larger COVID units for symptomatic positives to allow people to be cohorted together and consolidate medical resources. We're already reviewing lists for the next round of moves and hope to have around 140 ready to go next week. The reason I'm running a little later than usual tonight is I went out there this evening to join them for dinner and see how everyone is getting settled. All in all, the guys were in really good spirits and seemed pleased with the new digs.

Staff did a great job helping everyone get settled and fielding questions, and we're going to have plenty of things to work out. That's why we moved a small group to start. We encountered our first hiccup with the phone system out there. CenturyLink is on it, and we should have phone service up and running tomorrow. While we continue to work on ways to support email and other communication services, we're providing free and unlimited calls. Normally, we have months to plan for standing up a facility. Here, it was a few short weeks, and it was an impressive effort by everyone involved!

I also can't thank the Idaho Military Division, General Garshak and his staff enough for working with us to make this facility available in a time of great need. They approached our request with the same attitude with which they approach any request for assistance in Idaho – they made it happen. We're grateful for their partnership and support.

**Staff Testing:** We had two staff positives over the weekend. These were results from last Thursday's mass testing event, and one positive was from IMSI while the other positive was from SBWCC. All others tested last Thursday were negative. Tomorrow, we're wrapping up testing for SBWCC and IMSI staff. No additional positives were reported today.

**Incarcerated Population Testing:** It's going to be a busy week of testing. Tomorrow, in addition to the mass staff testing, we'll be testing all residents at the East Boise CRC and Nampa CRC. Wednesday and Thursday we'll be testing RDU at ISCI and the remainder of the SICI compound. Our plan is still to finish testing as ISCC, but that won't be finished until late this week or early next week. As of earlier this evening, we've tested 2,522 incarcerated individuals with 172 tests still pending, 1,472 negatives, 58 symptomatic positives, 107 asymptomatic positives, and 713 inactive cases.

That's it for tonight, but we'll have more tomorrow. Please stay safe and take care of yourself.

Thanks-  
Josh