

Fireside Chat 5-20-21

Welcome to this week's Fireside Chat.

As you have noticed, we have been slowly receiving approvals in our progression through the COVID-19 pandemic. We have progressed steadily since the statewide reset that took place in December 2020. Since that setback; we have increased our cohorts to half-tiers and have seen a substantial increase in law library, barber shop, and inmate employment while at the same time maintaining yard schedules, phones/kiosks, showers, medical services, and treatment services. This week, we were also able to add 2 more housing units to the Food Service employment rotation. We also saw the implementation of video visiting rooms on the housing units.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation throughout this entire COVID-19 pandemic.

Beginning tomorrow, 5/21/21, we will be increasing our cohort sizes to full tiers. The Modular Housing Units, which consist of HA and HB Unit will become 1 cohort.

As a reminder, if you have not received the COVID-19 vaccine and wish to do so please send a request slip to the Medical Department. If you receive the vaccine, please let the Medical Department or a Staff member know if you are experiencing symptoms from the vaccines. Notify the same if you are experiencing severe head ache, abdominal pain, leg pain, and/or shortness of breath. There will be no medical co-pay for services associated with the vaccine and/or COVID.

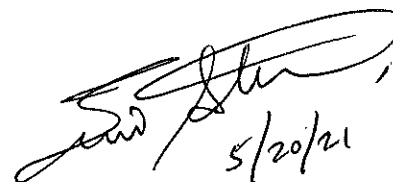
As a Correctional Facility, we must continue to wear our mask, wash our hands, and practice social distancing. As a reminder, cell cleaning supplies continue to be available on the housing unit and can be requested from a Staff member.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. SCI-Huntingdon has several things on the agenda to observe this special month. First, the Activities Department is working with the Jaycee Organization to have a fundraiser consisting of Board Games and TV remote controls. A donation from this fundraiser will be made to the Warren E. Smith mental health facility located in Philadelphia, Pa. Second, we are constructing a pamphlet to make available to the inmate population. It will have puzzles, an inspirational insert, and writings from both staff and inmates. This pamphlet will be made available to the inmate population early next week. Third, on Wednesday, May 26th, we will have a special presentation during noon count on Channel 44. This special presentation will observe and recognize Mental Health Awareness Month.

The special food event for Jaycees appreciation will take place today. This membership appreciation is for Jaycee members only.

The special food event for PLA appreciation will take place on Friday, May 28th. This membership appreciation is for PLA members only.

Thank you and have a good week.

 CCPM
5/20/21