

## Fireside Chat – 9/1/22

The memo from Secretary Little concerning the expansion of services that is to begin September 6<sup>th</sup> has been distributed on the housing units and has been added to the inmate channel. The purpose of this fireside chat is to review those upcoming changes and to inform you of a few changes specific to SCI-Huntingdon.

Effective Tuesday, September 6, 2022, SCI-Huntingdon will begin to initiate the expansion of services in treatment, education, and religious services. This expansion will eliminate the prior requirement for social distancing, thus, will allow more individuals to attend a class or group. In addition to the increased occupancies, all services will be provided in-person, and a zone will not limit your access to a service, or extend a completion time. Institutional procedures related to the use of call outs and waiting lists are still applicable when Staff manages the delivery of these services.

**Please note the following:** Treatment Specialists will begin this expansion on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Religious Services in the Chapel will begin their expansion on September 9<sup>th</sup> since all Chaplains will be out of the institutional attending the Annual Chaplaincy Conference. The Education Department will begin their expansion on September 19<sup>th</sup> due their semester break. The Activities Department is looking at the re-opening the gym and expanding their services....stay tuned on this.

The Kitchen and inmates working in the kitchen will begin the new schedule on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Inmate workers will be going back to working 5 days on and 2 off. Employment will only be adding new hires on Tuesdays and not on a daily basis as we have through COVID.

The yard schedule and meals will remain the same.

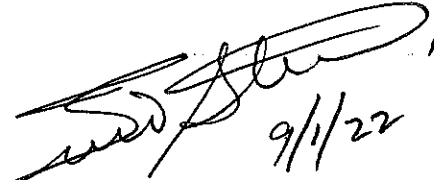
Effective September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Correctional Industry and Maintenance Shop inmate workers who are assigned to report to a morning call out will be permitted to return to CI or Maintenance Shops between 0830 – 1000 hours. Inmates will only return to their units from CI and Maintenance Shop Areas for visits, emergencies, or when summoned by a Commissioned Officer. CI and Maintenance Shop workers will not return to their units for phone calls.

Effective September 6, 2022, Print Plant and Soap Plant workers will line up in the corridor. CI Garment workers will line up in CA block, effective September 6.

Effective October 1, 2022, general population inmates will have contact visit opportunities available each day the visiting room is open. Contact visits quotas will remain at four, and visits need to be scheduled at least three days in advance; however, visitors will have more opportunities to schedule.

During the COVID pandemic, the Department of Corrections increased the allotment of letters our population could mail from eight to twelve. Effective September 1, 2022, this allotment will be reduced back to eight. In addition, we were recently notified that our international call rate has increased from \$0.12 to \$0.14 per minute.

We continue to monitor for COVID-19 outbreaks and will utilize mitigation strategies should a need arise. Continue to wash your hands often and practice good hygiene. Masking is not required, but encouraged. Please let a Staff member and/or the Medical Department know if you do not feel well.

 , CCPM  
9/1/22