

## Jail Health Services

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[www.kingcounty.gov/health](http://www.kingcounty.gov/health)

July 16, 2020

**TO:** KCCF and MRJC staff

**FM:** Danotra McBride, Interim JHS Division Director



**RE:** JHS employee tests positive for COVID-19

A Jail Health Services (JHS) employee at the King County Correctional Facility reported testing positive for COVID-19 on Wednesday, July 15. This is the first JHS employee to report a positive COVID test. The employee last worked on Tuesday, July 14.

Public Health has initiated contact tracing for any person who may have had prolonged contact with this employee and will notify those individuals directly.

As always, all staff should clean and disinfect their areas and continue to do so frequently. As we see the surge in community spread of COVID-19, everyone should remain mindful and vigilant to help promote safety for all. Our adult detention facilities require staff to wear masks or cloth face coverings and encourage inmates to do so as well. We must all make handwashing and use of hand sanitizer a routine activity throughout the day, and practice social distancing wherever possible. Also, any employees who are sick, or have new or unusual symptoms of illness, are reminded to stay home until they are symptom-free.

Please take a moment to review the following guidelines on what to do after encountering someone with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis. Together, we can help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in detention.

### **What should an employee do if they have close contact with a person with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 and do not have symptoms?**

We have three types of employees, first responders, mission critical, and all other employees. During this pandemic, we need all first responders and mission critical staff to report for work as directed, unless they are sick or have symptoms.

To limit the spread of the virus, all other employees should not be in the workplace for 14 days after the employee's last contact with the diagnosed person. The employee should telecommute if possible. If not, the employee may use accrued or donated paid leave during their absence.

### **What should an employee do if they have had close contact with a person with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 and the employee has symptoms?**

The employee should not be in the workplace for at least 10 days from the onset of symptoms or 72 hours after symptoms have cleared, whichever is longer. The employee may telecommute if their job duties allow, and if the employee feels well enough to work. If not, the employee may use accrued or donated leaves.