



**Stronger Together**

**State of Ohio Chapter**

**Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services - Recovery Services**

**Agency Professional Committee Meeting**

June 18, 2020

Union Attending: Curtis Brown, Geoff Davies, Ryan Cheesebrew, Cliff Brown, Chad Lee  
Management attending: John Sexten, Laurie Spolarich, Mindy Owens LRO3

**1. Process for determining RS staff returning to institutions?**

Originally it was we were asked to w/draw April 3. We were asked to return to OSP and RCI and so we made a plan. Then last week approached by DRC for all staff to return to assist with providing services. Plan was approved.

**Union: There are still facilities in RED or just moved to RED. Staff going back there? Services?**

Just Recovery Services. No plan or request to work outside.

Protections? Numbers?

Mgt: Cloth or surgical. Own or provided by DRC at

Mgt: 6 foot – able to use barriers if available – that depends on DRC.

Mgt: We have advocated and requested but its entirely up to DRC and the institutions.

Union: What is the relationship? Can you refuse to go back depending on criteria?

Mgt: We have asked for barriers. Everyone is having a budget issue. You'd have to ask DRC, we have asked for them. Clearly mark areas

Socially distanced groups – 9 inmates and one counselor. Staff from any other area counted in number or COs.

Union: Toledo can do that. Others? Lebanon, Marion? What do they do? Where can we do groups?

Mgt: That would have to be worked out with warden and deputy warden. If cannot say a one on one or group? Limit the class depending on the size available.

Union: Staff going into the units?

Mgt: They do go into various parts, make rounds go to housing units. Part of the duty is to determine if individual is still interested

Union: Quarantined and isolated units?

Mgt: May be. PPE would be guidelines for DRC which follow DOH. They will have access to the PPE for those places within the facilities. In our training this morning someone asked if they could use a face shield if they brought, but they still have to wear. If you have your own N95 mask and you want to wear that you can. That's my understanding. You'd have to talk to DRC.

Union: Do I need to go into a quarantine unit?

If quarantine or isolated?

Mgt: It will be a while before groups and movements. It'll be worked out in institutions. – based on the protocols in place.

Isolation units, not but quarantine units?

Union: Also DRC are limiting where staff works. They have some internal controls limited movement.

Mgt: John proposes a joint APC with DRC. They would have those answers. Convene a joint with DRC on how they utilize the RS staff.

Union: Chad – getting guys to groups will be the biggest issue. They're not even letting unit staff cross.

1. RS staff going in units
2. Cohorting?
3. Who can attend groups?

Mgt: Inmates don't want to be moved units to take part, so that's going to be a barrier. Its going to be up to the inmate.

Union: Chad – we have a limited supply of N95 and that's why.

## **2. Status of RS staff who have returned to the institution(s)**

Institutions that have returned – it's a mixture of cleaning, sanitizing, dealing with issues of movement and logistics. How is it at Ross and OSP. It was DRC asked. Services Staff are going back to institutions that are more dangerous now than when they left. What's changed? Why going back now? The numbers are worse?

DRC requested us to withdraw when little was known about the situation. After much deliberation DRC has asked us to return.

April 3 when they asked us to leave and that was unacceptable, to me and our staff who were there to provide services. We wanted to continue to work and provide services.

Our services are as important. We were asked

Laurie – we wont be roaming around the institutions? There is a protocol to prevent. Would need to confirm with DRC.

Ask the supervisor and chain of command if asked to go into a quarantine unit.

Supervisor then regional then John

## **3. Level Red Status (What does this mean and the different Level Red status')**

## **4. State budget cuts**

all date agencies and what not has happened. What else might occur we can't say. We can't provide any more information.

## **5. Second wave?**

- DOH and CDC recommendations at the time.

**6. Return of all staff to prison**

**June 24**

PPE?

**7. Schedules on return? Is there any plan on changing modified schedules?**

Going back to the same schedule

**8. Covid leave**

We opted in to the Covid leave. We may be able to use it. There are specific guidelines. We didn't opt in to the expanded FMLA. Members need to be clear with what they want to use it for. We were exempted by law. We chose to offer staff 80 hours. DRC did 40. Also extended FMLA but we didn't opt in to that.

What is the process? Talk to their supervisors with any concerns.

Is it 80 hours or 40?