EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE # 20-20

This Executive Directive presents and authorizes the Indiana Department of Correction’s Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan. The Plan is effective immediately and is applicable to all Department staff, facilities, visitors, offenders, and youth.

The Department will manage infectious diseases in correctional facilities through a comprehensive approach which includes prevention, testing, appropriate treatment, education, and infection control measures.

Each facility, at a minimum, shall establish an organizational structure including a chain of command and facility specific procedures for infectious disease surveillance and illness management. Illness management procedures should address levels of illness severity relative to the facility’s physical plant, type of offender housing and programs, number of infected offenders and staff, absenteeism of staff at various levels, and the availability of supplies and resources, including, but not limited to:

- Monitoring for disease outbreaks;
- Separation of ill offenders;
- Implementing social distancing when a few offenders are ill;
- Isolation housing units when a substantial number of offenders are ill;
- Planning for staff shortages including cross-training employees and temporarily shutting down noncritical operations if a substantial number of offenders and staff become ill; and,
- Planning for supply shortages if illness in the community interrupts deliveries.

As an example, a pandemic virus may come and go in waves, each of which can last for six (6) to eight (8) weeks. Plan to address disruption of normal facility operations for a time frame and include the steps to return to normal operations when offenders and staff are no longer infectious.

Please ensure that all staff are made aware, and have access to, this Executive Directive.