



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
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Date: April 3, 2020

To: All Staff  
Subject: **Cell Feeds for residents deemed "High Risk" for COVID-19**  
From: Commissioner Helen Hanks

**Effective – April 4, 2020 - Breakfast**

Medical & Forensic Services has identified residents in our facilities who meet CDC guidelines for high risk of adverse outcomes if they were to contract COVID-19.

Starting with the breakfast meal tomorrow at all sites, those deemed "high risk" by Medical and Forensics will be provided a cell feed. This will be revisited May 4, 2020.

Our goal is to reduce unnecessary potential exposures to high-traffic locations and places where a person cannot reasonably physically distance and reduce the surfaces that high risk populations touch. The less items/physical objects a person touches, the less likely they are to be exposed to COVID-19 through contact. All residents in their housing units can make personal choices within the confines of the physical plant to distance themselves as best as possible. This is not as easily achieved in high traffic areas such as the dining halls. Further, even though we are cleaning between each meal and serving meals by housing unit – our goal is to reduce unnecessary potential exposures by reducing the number of items they touch.

Residents who are "high risk" will not be permitted to perform their job in the kitchen during this. Their jobs will be held for them and we will maintain their current rate of pay.

If a "high risk" resident is working in any other location, they will maintain their job as long as the work site supervisor can maintain appropriate physical distancing and preferably contain their work to an individually assigned work bench/station.

Again, this measure is to reduce the items a "high risk" person touches that multiple other people may have touched between cleanings in turn reducing their potential exposure to COVID-19. A high-risk person can speak to medical and may choose to waive this self-protective restriction as outlined above. That waiver will be documented in the medical chart and medical staff will remove the alert in CORIS. Please note any high risk resident can choose to withdraw their waiver at any time by again speaking to medical staff, which will once again include them in this preventative measure.