

**COVID-19 Update from Hampshire Sheriff Patrick J. Cahillane**

**January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**HSO's Opioid Treatment Program Scores 100 percent!**

As of Noon on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, there are 10 cases of Covid-19 inside the Hampshire County Jail and House of Correction. Six of those 10 will be cleared to leave quarantine tomorrow. All of the cases have been mild and we continue to operate with our masking protocols in place for the secure areas of our facility.

Copied below is a memo distributed this afternoon to all staff at the Hampshire Sheriff's Office regarding the audit of our Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) conducted January 12-13<sup>th</sup> by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC).

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Memo: January 17, 2023

From: Sheriff Cahillane

Re: NCCHC audit

To all staff:

I hope everyone will join me in congratulating our Treatment, Medical and Security teams for earning a perfect score from the National Commission on Correctional Health Care after last week's audit of our Opioid Treatment Program (OTP).

Auditors Susan Spingler, RN, and Donald Kern, MD, found that we were in 100 percent compliance with all 46 standards that apply to facilities of our size, making special note of the teamwork and camaraderie they experienced during their two-day visit.

Becoming our own federally-licensed OTP in October of 2021 was a hugely significant achievement in the history of the HSO and in the evolution of our correctional practices, and the results of this audit indicate that we are on the right path. I hope everyone takes pride in

the fact that we are one of only a handful of county correctional facilities in the nation, and the second in the state, to become our own OTP, a designation that enables us to operate our medication-assisted treatment (MAT) program for opioid-use disorder with more autonomy when prescribing Vivitrol and buprenorphine, and especially methadone, one of the most strictly regulated medications in the county.

Our Treatment, Medical and Security teams have worked tirelessly to make our OTP program, and the results of this audit, a success, none more so than ADS Mindy Cady, OTP Medical Director Dr. Katie Krauskopf, OTP Coordinator Bridget Szawlowski, Health Services Administrator Jennifer Martin, Compliance Officer Lt. Bryan Luszczki, and the entire MOUD team.

And remember, this is a team effort. I want to thank every member of the staff for their commitment because we cannot achieve these results without every staff member contributing. The more we work together, the better our results, and I am pleased that the auditors highlighted our teamwork during their exit report. Without our welcoming and open community at the HSO, none of this is possible.

Our goal, as always, is to help our men return to their families and communities in better overall health than when they arrived. The results of this audit clearly show that our opioid treatment program is essential to fulfilling that goal.

Great work, everyone!

Sheriff Cahillane