

COVID-19 Update from Hampshire Sheriff Patrick J. Cahillane

January 28th, 2021

Nurturing Fathers Video

As of 3 pm on Thursday, January 28th, there are no cases of Covid-19 inside the Hampshire County Jail and House of Correction; 123 staff members and 50 inmates have received the first dose of the Moderna vaccine.

Over the coming weeks we will continue to inoculate staff and the men in our care as more of the vaccine becomes available, and as more of the people under our roof volunteer to receive it. Our goal, as always, is to create as safe an environment as possible at the HSO, and to return as many men to their communities as public health and safety concerns will allow.

We hope that the actions we take at our facility will also improve the health and safety of the communities we serve. Controlling a pandemic requires constant vigilance and unending human decency. I am proud that the HSO has an abundance of both.

Thanks to our partners at The Children's Trust, a Boston-based non-profit organization working to improve the lives of children and families in Massachusetts, we now have a video of our historic Nurturing Father's Program graduation held December 22nd at the Northampton Recovery Center under strict Covid-19 precautions.

Although the video itself is not flashy, it does capture the sincerity of the graduates and the spirit of camaraderie among my staff members who facilitate the program.

This was the first Nurturing Father's Program we have conducted entirely in the community for non-incarcerated men. Our graduates are our neighbors, and thanks to our

partnership with our friends at the Northampton Recovery Center, we were able to provide a safe space for our neighbors to continue to learn and grow.

Our Nurturing Father's Program is the jewel of our four-year partnership with The Children's Trust. More than 80 men have graduated from the 13-week course since our partnership began in 2016, and in 2018, The Children's Trust awarded us with its "Emerging Leader" award for our work with the program.

Thanks again to The Children's Trust, the Northampton Recovery Center, my staff, and our featured speaker, Northampton attorney, radio host, and father Bill Newman, who delivered an inspiring message to our graduates.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gv1XBJubTuA>

Patrick J. Cahillane

Sheriff, Hampshire County