

**Procedure Title:** COVID-19 Testing of Youth at the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC)

**Applies To:** All PJJSC Staff

### **OVERVIEW:**

The PJJSC is Philadelphia's only secure juvenile detention facility that can house 184 youth. Youth between the ages of 13 and 20 are held at the PJJSC on the order of the Court while they wait for their case to be heard or awaiting placement. Youth who are held at the PJJSC receive medical, educational, behavioral health, and recreational services. All youth held at the PJJSC are required to wear masks. PJJSC staff are required to wear masks and gloves.

DHS has developed a protocol which outlines the process for the testing of youth for COVID-19, who are ordered to be held at the PJJSC. Partners in this process include: Corizon Health, which is a contracted provider, and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP).

## **PROCEDURES and PRACTICE CONSIDERATIONS**

### **PROCEDURE SUMMARY**

Upon being admitted to the PJJSC, youth receive a medical screening on site at the PJJSC, including a COVID-19 test, that will be administered by the medical staff from Corizon Health. Newly admitted youth will be quarantined in their individual room on a designated unit at the PJJSC until the results of the test are obtained.

For youth who are currently held at the PJJSC, Corizon Health will test the youth in cohorts, until all the youth are tested.

**ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES** (*what happens, who does it, what are the time frames, how is it documented*)

#### **Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center**

- Provided that the census is 120 youth or below, all youth will be assigned to individual rooms.
- When census is above 120 youth, youth who are in the general population will share rooms.
- All PJJSC staff are always required to wear masks and gloves in the PJJSC.
- Youth are moved to a designated quarantine unit while awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- Youth who are exposed to COVID-19 are quarantined separately from youth who are COVID-19 positive.
- Drop test specimens off daily to CHOP.
- **Negative Test Results:** Youth who test negative for COVID-19 will be moved from the quarantine unit and placed on a regular unit.
- **Positive Test Results:** Youth who test positive for COVID-19 will be placed on a quarantine unit at the PJJSC and will be monitored daily for symptoms by Corizon Health.
  - Youth will continue to be required to wear masks.

COVID-19 Testing for PJJSC May 2020

For questions about this policy or its related documents, please contact the Policy & Planning Helpline at (215) 683-4108 or [DHSPolicy@phila.gov](mailto:DHSPolicy@phila.gov).

- Ensure that youth residing on the quarantine unit continue to have access to services offered at the PJJSC.
- Notify parents/guardians by telephone of the youth's test results.
- Provide parents/guardians with daily updates about the youth's physical health status.
- Inform attorneys of record via email notification of the positive tests results.
- **Placements:** After consultation with DHS Law Department, Attorneys, Corizon Health, Probation, and DHS/CUA Social Work Staff, if applicable, youth who are positive for COVID-19, will continue to be held at the PJJSC until they are medically cleared to be placed in their next setting.
- **Youth who are discharged home:** Youth who are positive for COVID-19, if ordered by the court, can remain at the PJJSC until they are medically cleared. If youth who are positive for COVID-19 are ordered to be discharged to their parent/guardian, prior to being cleared, PJJSC staff will provide the parent/guardian with literature from the Philadelphia Department of Public Health about caring for an individual who is positive for COVID-19.

**Corizon Health**

- Provide medical screening on-site for youth being admitted to the PJJSC, including a COVID-19 test.
- Collect specimens necessary for the COVID-19 test.
- Report test results provided by CHOP to designated PJJSC staff.
- Daily monitor youth who have tested positive for COVID-19 for symptoms.

**Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP)**

- Analyze specimens provided by Corizon Health for COVID-19.
- Provide results to Corizon Health within 24 hours of receiving the specimen.

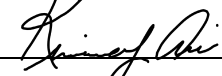
**PROTOCOL REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

APPROVED BY: Kimberly Ali, Commissioner

REVIEWED BY: Nelson Walker, Deputy Commissioner of Juvenile Justice Services  
Michael B. Scott, Executive Director of PJJSC  
Brian Butler, Executive Assistant  
Luis A Santiago, DHS Policy and Planning Administrator

**APPROVAL SIGNATURE**

*(Authorizing Leadership/Name and title)*

Signature:   
Name: Kimberly Ali Title: Commissioner

Date: 5/13/2020