COVID-19 MITIGATION INITIATIVES

From the beginning of the global COVID-19 pandemic, our corporate, regional, and field staff have taken steps to mitigate the risks of the novel coronavirus and have worked with our government partners to implement best practices consistent with the guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Ensuring the health and safety of all those entrusted to our care and of our employees has always been our number one priority.

GEO’s COVID-19 mitigation initiatives have included:

Guidance
- We issued guidance to all our facilities, consistent with the guidance issued for correctional and detention facilities by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Testing
- We increased testing capabilities at our secure facilities to inform and encourage social distancing.
- We have modified inmate/detainee movements to accommodate social distancing.

Bi-Polar Ionization
- We invested approximately $2 million to acquire 45 Abbott Rapid COVID-19 ID NOW devices and testing kits capable of diagnosing not only COVID-19, but Influenza and Strep Throat.
- By the end of December of 2020, we had administered more than 50,000 COVID-19 tests to those in our care at our secure services facilities.

Bi-Polar Ionization Air Purification Systems are specially-designed electronic devices that create bi-polar - negative and positive - ions that can effectively break down a wide variety of harmful bacterial and viral contaminations into a less complex and safe form by attacking the DNA of bacteria and viruses.

Facemasks and Personal Hygiene Products
- We have provided continuing facemasks to all inmates and detainees, with a minimum of three facemasks per week or more often upon request.
- We increased the frequency of distribution of personal hygiene products, including soap, shampoo and body wash, and tissue paper, and we are ensuring the daily availability of bars of soap or soap dispensers at each sink for hand washing in all of our facilities.

Social Distancing
- We have implemented social distancing pursuant to directives from our government agency partners.
- We have communicated social distancing obligations and requirements via meetings, memos, and postings.
- We deployed floor markers throughout our facilities to inform and encourage social distancing.
- We have modified inmate/detainee movements to accommodate social distancing.

Engineering Controls
- We temporarily suspended onsite social visitation.
- We established requirements for staff to complete a medical questionnaire and pass a daily temperature check.
- We modified intake procedures to screen new inmates/detainees.
- We established isolation and quarantine procedures for COVID-19 positive and symptomatic cases, consistent with CDC guidelines.

Administrative/Work Practice Controls
- We posted reminders regarding coughing and sneezing etiquette, the importance of frequent handwashing, and the use of facemasks.
- We increased cleaning and disinfection of facilities, including high-touch areas (e.g., doorknobs/handles, light switches, handheld radios), housing unit dayrooms, dining areas, and other areas where inmates/detainees assemble.
- We advised our employees to remain home if they exhibit flu-like symptoms, and we have exercised flexible paid leave and Paid Time Off policies to allow for employees to remain home if they exhibit flu-like symptoms or to care for a family member.
- We enacted quarantine and testing policies for any employees who may have come into contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Vaccination
- We are working closely with our government partners and State and Local Health Departments to coordinate vaccination efforts for staff, inmates, and detainees at our secure facilities across the country and the coordination of these vaccination efforts is in alignment with recommendations from the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), as well as criteria established through the Food and Drug Administration approval process.
- The timing of vaccine distribution to staff, inmates, and detainees is presently being directed by the Local and State Health Departments in the jurisdictions in which we operate through the guidance and prioritization recommendations offered by the CDC and ACIP.
- Our staff are not required, nor mandated, to receive the vaccine but will be offered the vaccine when made available to them by their respective Local and/or State Health Departments.
- We have also advised our staff that if they have any questions regarding vaccination, they should direct them to their health care provider and/or their respective Local/State Health Department.

Along with implementing these measures, GEO is continuing to coordinate closely with our government agency partners and local health agencies to ensure the health and safety of all those in our care and our employees. We are grateful for our frontline employees, who are making sacrifices daily to provide care for all those in our facilities, during this unprecedented global pandemic.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON GEO GROUP’S COVID-19 MEASURES, VISIT: GEOGROUP.COM/COVID19