Warden Phillip White Augusta Correctional Center 1821 Estaline Valley Road Craigsville, VA 24430

Dear Warden:

We are writing to urge you to develop and implement without delay evidence-based and proactive plans for the prevention and management of COVID-19 in the Virginia Department of Corrections.

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Warden Earl Barksdale Baskerville Correctional Center 4150 Hayes Mill Road Baskerville, VA 23915

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Warden Israel Hamilton Bland Correctional Center 256 Bland Farm Road Bland, VA 24315

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Superintendent Tori Raiford Caroline Correctional Unit 31285 Camp Road Hanover, VA 23069

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Superintendent Tykeshae Fowlkes Central Virginia Correctional Unit #13 6900 Courthouse Road Chesterfield, VA 23832

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Warden Rodney Younce Coffeewood Correctional Center 12352 Coffeewood Drive Mitchells, VA 22729

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Superintendent Thomas Redman Cold Springs Correctional Unit #10 221 Spitler Circle Greenville, VA 24440

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AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION FOUNDATION

Virginia

701 E. Franklin Street Suite 1412 (804) 644-8022 Richmond VA 23219 acluva.org

Warden Tammy Williams Deerfield Correctional Center 21360 Deerfield Drive Capron, VA 23829

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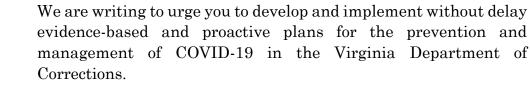
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Warden Dana Ratliffe-Walker Dillwyn Correctional Center 1522 Prison Road Dillwyn, VA 23936

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Warden Eric Aldridge Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women 144 Prison Lane Troy, VA 22974

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Warden Larry Edmonds Greensville Correctional Center 901 Corrections Way Jarratt, VA 23870

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ACLU

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION FOUNDATION

Virginia

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Superintendent Louise Goode Halifax Correctional Unit 1200 Farm Road Halifax, VA 24558

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Warden Tikki Hicks Haynesville Correctional Center 421 Barnfield Road Haynesville, VA 22472

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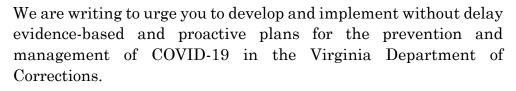
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Warden Rick White Indian Creek Correctional Center 801 Sanderson Road Chesapeake, VA 23328

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Warden Clint Davis Keen Mountain Correctional Center State Route 629 Oakwood, VA 24631

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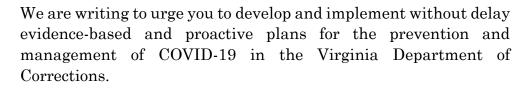
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Warden Michael Breckon Lawrenceville Correctional Center 1607 Planters Road Lawrenceville, VA 23868

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AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION FOUNDATION

Virginia

701 E. Franklin Street Suite 1412 (804) 644-8022 Richmond VA 23219 acluva.org

Warden Jeffery Artrip Marion Correctional Treatment Center 110 Wright Street Marion, VA 24354

Dear Warden:

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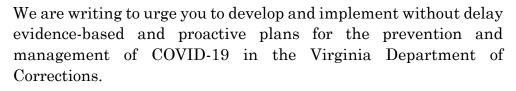
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Warden David Call Nottoway Correctional Center 2892 Schutt Road Burkeville, VA 23922

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Superintendent Joseph Bateman Patrick Henry Correctional Unit 18155 A. L. Philpott Highway Ridgeway, VA 24148

Dear Superintendent:

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Virginia

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Warden Kevin Punturi Pocahontas State Correctional Center 317 Old Mountain Road Pocahontas, VA 24635

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Chief Warden Jeffrey Kiser Red Onion State Prison 10800 H. Jack Rose Highway Pound, VA 24279

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Warden Barry Kanode River North Correctional Center 329 Dell Brook Lane Independence, VA 24348

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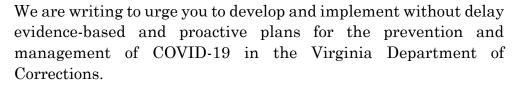
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Virginia

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Warden Dara Watson St. Brides Correctional Center 701 Sanderson Road Chesapeake, VA 23328

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Warden Thomas Meyer State Farm Correctional Center 3500 Woods Way State Farm, VA 23160

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Warden Ivan Gilmore Sussex I State Prison 24414 Musselwhite Drive Waverly, VA 23891

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Warden Donald Wilmouth Virginia Correctional Center for Women 2841 River Road Goochland, VA 23063

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- Housing of persons exposed to the virus: The plan must describe how and where people in the prison system will be housed if they are exposed to the virus and need to be quarantined, are at high risk of serious illness if they become infected, or become sick with it. Any prisoner segregation, lock-downs or interruptions in regular activities, such as exercise or visits and phone calls with families or attorneys, should be based solely on the best science available and should be as limited as possible in scope and duration.
- **Treatment:** Courses of treatment must be evidence-based, available immediately, and in compliance with accepted public health protocols.
- Vulnerable Populations: The plan must provide for additional precautions for those who are at high risk of serious illness if they are infected, such as pregnant women and people with chronic illnesses, compromised immune systems, or disabilities, people over the age of 65 and people whose housing placements restrict

• **Data collection:** The collection of data regarding COVID-19 will be part of the public health response. As with any contagious disease, data collection is critical to understanding and fighting the virus. Prisons and jails must be part of this process. The same information that is tracked in the community must be tracked in the prisons and jails.

We are closely monitoring this situation because of the importance of ensuring that all individuals in your custody are treated with dignity and care. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or if you wish to discuss further.

Very truly yours,

Claire Guthrie Gastanaga Executive Director

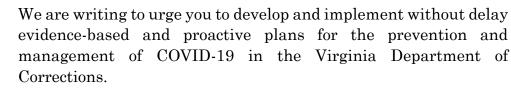
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION FOUNDATION

Virginia

701 E. Franklin Street Suite 1412 (804) 644-8022 Richmond VA 23219 acluva.org

Warden David Zook Wallens Ridge State Prison 272 Dogwood Drive Big Stone Gap, 24219

Dear Warden:



People in prisons and jails are highly vulnerable to outbreaks of contagious illnesses. They are housed in close quarters and are often in poor health. Without the active engagement of the administration, they have little ability to inform themselves about preventive measures, or to take such measures if they do manage to learn of them.

We ask that you reach out to the local or state department of health immediately to develop plans to address the virus in institutions. You can find a directory here: http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/local-health-districts/. This is an urgent matter. Having an appropriate, evidence-based plan in place and ready to implement can help prevent an outbreak and minimize its impact if one does occur. Not having one may cost lives.

While the plan should be developed collaboratively by your agency and your local or state health department, some of the critical issues that must be addressed are:

• Education of the people in your custody: People housed in prisons and jails need to be informed about the virus and the measures they can take to minimize their risk of contracting or spreading the virus. They must be educated on the importance of proper handwashing, coughing into their elbows, and social distancing to the extent they can. Information about the spread of the virus, the risks associated with it, and prevention and treatment measures must be based on the best available science.



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- Education of the staff: Correctional, administrative, and medical staff all must be educated about the virus to protect themselves and their families, as well as the people in their custody.
- **Staffing plans:** Regardless of how many staff stay home because they are sick, prisons and jails will have to continue functioning. There must be a plan for how necessary functions and services will continue if large numbers of staff are out with the virus.
- •Staffing plans for services provided by prisoners: Many tasks in prisons and jails, such as food preparation and basic sanitation, are performed by prisoners. The plans for an outbreak must also address how necessary tasks performed by prisoners will continue if large numbers of prisoners are ill.
- Provision of hygiene supplies and protective gear: The most basic aspect of infection control is hygiene. There must be ready access to warm water and adequate hygiene supplies, both for handwashing and for cleaning. Refer to guidelines from your local health department on when to utilize masks, gloves and protective clothing to prevent the spread of germs.
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Claire Guthrie Gastanaga Executive Director

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Superintendent Dennis Collins Wise Correctional Unit 3602 Bear Lane, P. O. Box 1198 Coeburn, VA 24230

Dear Superintendent:

We are writing to urge you to develop and implement without delay evidence-based and proactive plans for the prevention and management of COVID-19 in the Virginia Department of Corrections.

People in prisons and jails are highly vulnerable to outbreaks of contagious illnesses. They are housed in close quarters and are often in poor health. Without the active engagement of the administration, they have little ability to inform themselves about preventive measures, or to take such measures if they do manage to learn of them.

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