

## **South Carolina Department of Corrections**

March 12, 2020 For immediate release Contact: Chrysti Shain, (803) 413-8206 Shain.Chrysti@doc.sc.gov

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** – The S.C. Department of Corrections has been monitoring the public health threat posed from COVID-19 and the potential impact on its staff, inmates, volunteers and visitors.

Department officials have been working closely with the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control for the latest information and guidance about the spread of this virus.

SCDC understands the value of family visits and volunteer programs, but measures must be put in place to ensure everyone's health and safety.

We apologize for the inconvenience, but the following measures are in place for the next 30 days:

- Visitation is suspended statewide;
- Volunteers from Kershaw County will not be allowed entrance into any institution;
- SCDC work crews will not go out from Wateree Farm Correctional Institution, which is located in both Kershaw and Sumter counties;

SCDC is working with GTL, our telephone provider, to make sure those who are incarcerated can have access to calls with their family and loved ones during this time.

These measures will be evaluated as the situation across South Carolina develops.