

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 21, 2020

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First Positive COVID-19 Case in Livingston County

Livingston County- A resident of Livingston County has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus disease). Livingston County Health Department (LCHD) officials were notified of a positive test, according to state and local public health protocol. The individual is a woman in her 60s with a history of travel. The individual is currently recovering at home and is in isolation.

LCHD officials continue to work closely with OSF HealthCare and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), investigating and notifying any individuals who may have had exposure to the individual who tested positive for COVID-19.

The health and safety of Livingston County residents remains the highest priority for county health officials. All partners and organizations involved in the COVID-19 response remain fully prepared to respond to COVID-19 cases. Public health, hospital systems, and first responders maintain highly trained infection control teams, specialized equipment, and protocols consistent with the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Individuals who have questions or concerns about COVID-19 may contact the IDPH Hotline at 1-800-889-3931, or 2-1-1 for general questions and referrals for resources, including mental health. Up-to-date information can also be found on IDPH's website, [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#).

On Friday, March 20th, Governor Pritzker issued Executive Order 2020-10 requiring all Illinoisans to stay in their homes beginning Saturday, March

21st at 5pm CST in an effort to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. The order prohibits things like visiting the homes of friends and holding gatherings of any size and closes all nonessential establishments, including most retail, recreation and entertainment businesses. It does not prohibit essential activities like going to the grocery store, receiving medical care, or taking your pet for a walk. For more information regarding the executive order to shelter-in-place, please visit the State of Illinois' website, [Stay at Home FAQs](#).

Residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, slowing the spread of COVID-19:

- **Stay home except for essential business, regardless of whether a person is experiencing symptoms.**
- Practice social distancing, making sure to stay 6' from others when in public.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you're sick at home, do your best to self-isolate from others living in the home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a cleaning spray with at least 70% alcohol or a bleach/water solution using a ratio of 1:10.
- If you have experience a cough, difficulty breathing, or a fever, stay home. If your symptoms worsen, call your healthcare provider **before** leaving your house so that you may be evaluated and provide further direction.

For Livingston County residents age 60 or older, homebound with no assistance and in need of essential care items, such as food, medical supplies, or personal hygiene products, please the LCHD at 815-844-7174 x230.

The LCHD will continue to work diligently to meet the everyday needs of county residents while aggressively addressing the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

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