

**FOR RELEASE:** March 26, 2020

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## **Second Positive COVID-19 Case in Livingston County**

Livingston County - A second resident of Livingston County has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus disease). Livingston County Health Department (LCHD) officials were notified of the second positive COVID-19 case on March 26, 2020, according to state and local public health protocol. The individual, a male in his 60s, is currently hospitalized and has no known history of exposure.

LCHD officials continue to work closely with OSF HealthCare and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and have investigated and notified 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 as well as the LCHD's website for information specific to Livingston County, IL.

Assume COVID-19 is in every community. Because people can be carriers of the virus prior to experiencing symptoms, everyone should be presumed to be carriers of the COVID-19 virus.

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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