

FOR RELEASE: October 19, 2020

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28 New Cases - 570 Cases Total in Livingston County

Livingston County, IL – Twenty more residents of Livingston County and eight inmates at Pontiac Correctional Center (PCC) have tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus disease). Sadly, one more resident has also died due to complications related to COVID-19. The individual was a male in his 80s. Livingston County Health Department (LCHD) officials were notified of the new COVID-19 cases and COVID-19 related death between October 17-19, 2020 in accordance with state and local public health protocol. The newly confirmed cases include a male and female under the age of one; a male in his 20s; four males and one female in their 30s; two males and two females in their 40s; three males and one female in their 60s; a female in her 70s; a male and female in their 80s; and a male in his 90s, all of whom are recovering in isolation. The Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) also reports eight new cases including a male in his 20s; four males in their 30s; and three males in their 40s, all of whom are recovering in isolation.

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

As of October 19, 2020, the LCHD has received 16,019 COVID-19 test results. Of that, 570 COVID-19 tests have been positive, 15,449 tests were negative, 508 of the previously reported cases have been removed from isolation, 52 cases remain active, one case is currently hospitalized, and, sadly, ten cases have resulted in death due to complications related to COVID-19. Of those individuals who have tested positive, 47 were asymptomatic at the time of testing. For details on the previously reported cases and up-to-date information for Livingston County, IL, community members can visit the LCHD's website: www.lchd.us.

Individuals who travel to hot spots in the country, those areas where higher rates of confirmed COVID-19 cases are reported, are strongly encouraged to get tested for COVID-19 5-7 days after returning from their trip or sooner if experiencing symptoms. People can track confirmed COVID-19 cases in Illinois by county and zip code by visiting IDPH's COVID-19 statistics site: <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/covid19-statistics>, and may also track confirmed cases nationwide by using CDC's COVID-19 tracker tool: <https://www.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#cases>. Drive-thru COVID-19 testing is available weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the parking lot of OSF Saint James – John W. Albrecht Medical Center, located along Illinois Route 116 just west of Interstate 55. All testing is at no charge to the client. Insurance is not required to be tested; however, if you have insurance, please bring your card to your testing appointment. Persons with an appointment will receive priority service as daily testing capacity is limited. Call the LCHD at (815) 844-7174 ext. 210 or ext. 216 to schedule an appointment. For those Livingston County residents who test positive for COVID-19, the LCHD will reach out to them individually and all of their close contacts (anyone the confirmed case has been within 6

feet of for at least 10-15 minutes in the 48 prior to either experiencing symptoms or receiving testing) within 24 hours of receiving notification.

The health and safety of Livingston County residents remains the highest priority for Livingston 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).

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. Community members are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community by slowing the spread of the COVID-19 virus, including wearing a mask and staying at least 6' from others when in public, as well as frequently washing hands and sanitizing regularly touched surfaces.

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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