



NEWS RELEASE #11

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lindsay Payer, Coffey County Health Department Administrator
April 5, 2020

New cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) identified in Coffey County

Burlington – Coffey County Health Department (CCHD) announces seven new cases of COVID-19. This brings the total positive cases to 28 in Coffey County.

The following Coffey County residents are involved:

- 59 yr old female
- 67 yr old female
- 62 yr old female
- 83 yr old female
- 89 yr old female
- 85 yr old female
- 79 yr old male

The positive cases of COVID 19 are under isolation in accordance with guidelines from the Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE).

There are 37 cases of coronavirus connected with Life Care Center in Burlington. This number includes employees of the facility and residents of Life Care Center. Some employees reside outside Coffey County so they are counted in their home counties.

“We are not surprised by these numbers. Due to the ongoing investigation process, we are now receiving results from some who were presumed positive and were tested to confirm,” said Coffey County Health Department Director Lindsay Payer. She also stated, “Despite the increase in numbers, we are still not experiencing widespread community transmission.”

CCHD will continue to identify close contacts of the individuals of each positive case. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet for a prolonged period (10 minutes or longer) or having direct contact with infectious secretions. Officials are contacting those who were exposed in these cases. The health department will actively monitor the close contacts for 14 days for fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

Social distancing and infection control measures are cornerstones for reducing the spread of COVID 19:

Social Distancing:

- At the individual level this means maintaining at least six-foot social distancing from other individuals.
- At the group level this means canceling mass gatherings where individuals that will be in close contact with each other.

Infection Control Measures:

- Washing hands with soap and water for at least twenty seconds as frequently as possible OR use a 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Covering coughs / sneezes into the sleeve / inner elbow and not hands or openly into the space around you.
- Regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces and not shaking hands.

Since the spread of COVID-19 began, Coffey County officials are working daily in collaboration with state and local partners to slow the spread of the COVID-19.

Coffey County residents can stay informed by visiting:

- Coffey Health Department Facebook Page:
www.facebook.com/Coffey-County-Health-Department-246233812996/
- Coffey Health System: www.coffeyhealth.org/COVID-19 or
www.facebook.com/CoffeyHealthSystem/
- KDHE: www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus or KDHE phone bank at 1-866-534-3463
- CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>.

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