



JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

NEWS

FOR RELEASE: Immediately (4/3/20)

For more information contact:

618/684-3143

ONE DEATH AND TWO COVID-19 POSITIVES IN JACKSON COUNTY

Jackson County Health Department was notified within the past 24 hours of two new cases and one death due to COVID-19. A female in her nineties, who's diagnosis was announced earlier this week, has passed away of COVID-19 related illness. She was a patient at a skilled nursing facility in Carbondale, but was hospitalized at the time of death. "We are deeply saddened by this loss. Staff at the health department are working COVID-19 cases each day and our hearts go out to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of their loved one," Jackson County Health Department Administrator Bart Hagston said in a statement.

The two new cases of COVID-19 include the following:

- A male in his twenties, likely acquired during travel to the Chicago area and out of country, is at home and doing well;
- A male in his eighties, who acquired the disease locally, is hospitalized and his condition unknown.

To date, there have been 10 total laboratory confirmed positives of COVID-19 in Jackson County.

Public health officials are investigating these cases, speaking with positive individuals about who they may have encountered before this diagnosis. Through investigation, public health may place other individuals on home quarantine if they are determined to have had significant exposure. Such individuals may not be symptomatic, but are quarantined for a period of time which allows symptoms to develop and pass, without posing risk to others. If you are contacted by public health officials, please respond promptly.

Health officials expect more cases to be confirmed locally in coming weeks. The number of cases can be reduced by adhering to the Governor's stay at home order, washing hands frequently, disinfecting commonly touched surfaces, and maintaining space from others when in public.

COVID-19 shares many symptoms with more common respiratory diseases. If you have a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, call your health care provider for further guidance. In addition, Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) has established a 24-hour COVID-19 hotline at 1-844-988-7800. Clinicians there will answer questions, assess each caller and advise on next steps for evaluation or potential testing.

Follow the websites and social media accounts of Jackson County Health Department, Illinois Department of Public Health and CDC for trusted information on this pandemic.

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