

District Health Department No. 4

For Immediate Release

Date: March 24, 2021



Safety measures stressed as school age COVID-19 cases increase

Over the past three weeks, COVID-19 cases have been steadily increasing in the District Health Department No. 4 (DHD4) service area, largely impacting the school aged population. From March 2-March 23, 276 cases of COVID-19 were reported to DHD4. Approximately 20% of these cases were in the 13–19-year age range. Individuals that test positive for COVID-19 are reminded not to wait to hear from the health department before isolating and notifying close contacts to quarantine.

Isolation – for people who are COVID-19 positive, usually lasts 10 days.

Quarantine – for people who are well but were exposed to someone with COVID-19. While the standard 14-day quarantine period remains best practice, quarantine can be reduced to 10 days if the individual does not develop any symptoms during those first 10 days after last exposure; and daily symptom monitoring continues through day 14 after last exposure.

“Like sports, control and prevention of this virus takes a team, said Devin Spivey, DHD4 Community Health Director and Epidemiologist. “While more than 23,700 doses of vaccine have been given to residents of the DHD4 service area, there are tens of thousands who remain unvaccinated in our communities – including many people with underlying conditions who are at greater risk for severe illness. Therefore, everyone must do their part to slow and stop the spread of COVID-19. “

Actions to protect yourself and others from the virus include:

- Get vaccinated for COVID-19 as soon as it is available to you.
- Wear a mask around others.
- Stay six feet or more from others.
- Wash hands often.
- Ventilate indoor spaces.

For up-to-date COVID-19 information visit www.dhd4.org/covid19 or call DHD4 COVID-19 hotline at 989-358-7936

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