Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Press Release
Purchase District Health Department

Purchase District Health Department Confirms Two more cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the First COVID-19 Related Death

The Purchase District Health Department has received notification of one additional confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in McCracken County, the first COVID-19 case in Ballard County, and the first COVID-19 related death. McCracken County now has a total of seventeen reported positive cases of COVID-19 since the first two reported cases on March 23, 2020. The McCracken County individual tested positive on April 5, 2020 and is a 23 year-old female. The first Ballard County individual to test positive for COVID-19 on April 5, 2020 is a 70 year-old female. Both individuals are in stable condition are not hospitalized and are self-quarantined. Both individuals have been notified that they tested positive for COVID-19. We are saddened to announce the first COVID-19 related death of an 81 year-old McCracken County resident, and we lift up his family in prayer. Additional details about these individuals cannot be provided because of medical privacy laws. While the risk to the general public is low, we are working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) to identify and contact all those who may have been exposed. Close contacts will be asked to quarantine and be monitored for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

"We believe the risk to the general public still remains low, and as this situation evolves, we will continue to communicate with the CDC, KDPH, and the people of McCracken County," said Kent Koster, Public Health Director of the Purchase District Health Department. "The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, there are simple preventative actions you can do to help prevent the spread of this virus."

The Purchase District Health Department offers these tips:

 • Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

• Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

• Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

• Stay home when you are sick.

• Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

• Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

This virus can be spread by respiratory droplets. Symptoms of COVID-19 may include fever, cough or shortness of breath.   Individuals who are experiencing symptoms should first contact their primary care medical provider.

If you are worried or concerned, but otherwise healthy, please see kycovid19.ky.gov for additional information or call the Ky Covid-19 hotline at 1-800-722-5725. Call your medical provider if you develop signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

Call the Purchase District Health Department at 270-444-9631 or visit our website www.purchasehealth.org for more information.