

Press Release

Purchase District Health Department

July 28, 2020

Purchase District Health Department Confirms Additional cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Since our last update, the Purchase District Health Department has received notification of ten additional confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) in McCracken County, one case in Ballard County, two cases in Carlisle County, two cases in Hickman County and six cases in Fulton County.

COUNTY	AGE	SEX
Carlisle	27	F
Carlisle	40	М
Ballard	67	М
Hickman	73	М
Hickman	61	М
Fulton	52	М
Fulton	49	F
Fulton	45	F
Fulton	59	F
Fulton	26	F
Fulton	23	М
McCracken	39	М
McCracken	62	М
McCracken	63	F
McCracken	58	М
McCracken	28	М
McCracken	54	F
McCracken	41	F
McCracken	28	М
McCracken	36	F
McCracken	74	М

McCracken County has 292 individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19, Ballard has 35, Carlisle has 19, Hickman has 14, and Fulton has 42.

There have been 3 deaths in McCracken County, 1 death in Fulton County, and 1 death in Carlisle County. 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.

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.

CONTRACT TRACING

The PDHD performs contact tracing as part of our routine communicable disease investigation process. Contact tracing has been around since the beginning of public health. The use of contact tracing to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities is crucial. Contact tracing is essential for our us as the counties resume work and school.

Local public health workers reach out to individuals who have COVID-19 to assess their situation, provide helpful resources, and ask about any recent in-person contacts who may have been exposed to the virus. In-person close contacts are notified that they may have been exposed to COVID-19. Close contacts are offered instructions and connected to local resources. Help stop the spread of COVID-19 and save the lives of Kentuckians by answering and talking to contact tracing public health workers.

To protect patients' confidentiality, contacts will not be told the identity of the person who may have exposed them. They will be told what they need to do to care for themselves, reduce the risk to others, and protect their communities from any further exposure only.

This virus can be spread by respiratory droplets. Symptoms of COVID-19 may include fever, cough, loss of taste, 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.