



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 19, 2020

Miami County Public Health Announces New COVID -19 Cases

Miami County, Ohio - Miami County Public Health (MCPH) is reporting, as of today, Thursday March 19th, 2020, there are nine additional presumptive positive COVID-19 cases in Miami County. All nine cases are residents of Koester Pavilion. This makes a total of eleven presumptive positive COVID-19 cases with the two presumptive positives from yesterday.

There are also three additional residents and two staff from Koester Pavilion who are hospitalized at Upper Valley Medical Center. Tests for COVID 19 are still pending on those patients. Five additional Koester Pavilion staff have also been tested for COVID-19 and results are pending. Results on those on those tests should take between 24-48 hours.

Miami County Public Health staff along with epidemiologists from Ohio Department of Health are currently working with Koester Pavilion to identify and contact those who may have come in contact with these confirmed cases. This is a rapidly evolving situation and new details and information will emerge over the next few days.

In the rest of Ohio there are currently 119 confirmed cases in 24 counties, with onset of symptoms ranging from February 7th to March 18th. Of those cases there are 43 females and 76 males, ranging in age from 2 to 91. There are currently 33 individuals hospitalized in Ohio

While most COVID-19 cases are mild, those who are 60 years old or older and those with long term medical conditions, such as heart disease, cancer and diabetes, are at higher risk of developing severe symptoms.

In order to help stop the spread of disease, MCPH encourages everyone to:

- Follow social distancing recommendations from the governor's office and the Ohio Department of Health
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer only if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Stay home when you are sick.





- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces – doorknobs, light switches, keyboards, etc.

All of our local and state public health officials are working diligently on this matter coordinating efforts to keep the public safe and informed. MCPH will continue to update the community as new information becomes available.

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