On March 17, 2020, Madison County reported its first positive case of Coronavirus (COVID-19). The person is a male in their 30s. The individual is in isolation at their home and is doing well. We are only able to release limited information due to HIPAA regulations. Madison County Health Department is working hard to prevent Coronavirus (COVID-19) from spreading within our community.

Community Mitigation Strategies https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community-mitigation-strategy.pdf and https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/mass-gatherings-ready-for-covid-19.html often are the most readily available interventions to help slow transmission of the virus in communities. **We want to slow the transmission of the disease so that we can flatten the curve and in particular protect individuals who are at an increased risk from severe illness including older adults and persons of any age with underlying health conditions** https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html.

We recommend to follow the guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html) and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) [http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus](http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus) and follow common preventative measures as listed in their links. The IDPH website will also provide the most up to date Coronavirus (COVID-19) case count.

At this time, stay calm, be smart, be responsible, and use common sense. Wash your hands frequently, cover your cough, and just stay home. If you must go out, practice social distancing [http://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/COVID-19_SocialDistancing.pdf](http://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/COVID-19_SocialDistancing.pdf). It is important to remember to think about others and to do what is best for everyone.

Instructions and guidance relevant to Madison County will come from our health department. Please follow our website [www.madisonchnd.org](http://www.madisonchnd.org) and our social media pages [https://www.facebook.com/MadisonCHD/](https://www.facebook.com/MadisonCHD/) and be alert to emails and messages from us. Additional information is also available on the Madison County [https://www.facebook.com/Madison-County-Illinois-Government-571295049720939/](https://www.facebook.com/Madison-County-Illinois-Government-571295049720939/)and the Madison County Emergency Management Agency [https://www.facebook.com/MadCoEMA/](https://www.facebook.com/MadCoEMA/) Facebook pages.
Additional State Of Illinois Guidance To Minimize Coronavirus (COVID-19) Spread (3/12/2020) Includes The Following:

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- The State is mandating all large-scale events exceeding 1,000 individuals be cancelled for the next 30 days.
- Additionally, the State is encouraging that community events of 250 people or more should be cancelled or postponed until May 1. This includes personal and social events. Residents should use good judgment about canceling events in their own communities.
- For events less than 250 people, residents should closely consider who is likely to attend the event and, if it includes vulnerable populations, strongly consider canceling.
- All major sporting events with large spectator crowds are cancelled until May 1. This should include school and college events as well as major league sporting events. The Governor has spoken with the owners of all the major sports teams in Illinois and they are in full support of these measures to protect the health of their fans and will cancel all games until May 1.

GOVERNMENT

- The Office of the Governor will remain open and operating, committed to ensuring that the government continues to serve the people of Illinois during this time.
- The Office of the Governor is working closely with all state agencies to ensure essential services will continue to be provided, while taking steps to protect the health and safety of state workers.

BUSINESSES AND WORKPLACES

- The State encourages businesses across the state to take advantage of teleworking capabilities.
- Every business that can have employees work remotely should consider doing so immediately.
- For those who cannot, employers are encouraged to take proper precautions to keep individuals safe in the workplace. This includes reminding staff to stay home when sick or with a fever; considering a plan for teleworking where feasible; remaining flexible on leave policies; and promoting robust mitigation approaches, such as hand washing, cleaning, and offering hand sanitizer.

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- The State continues to focus outreach efforts for those most vulnerable to severe illness from the coronavirus, older adults and people who have serious chronic medical conditions like heart disease, diabetes, lung disease, on dialysis, etc.
- Individuals who fall into these categories should take extra caution when attending gatherings of any size and avoid exposure to large groups of people whenever possible.
• The state has implemented new staffing procedures and strict guidelines restricting visitors at state-operated long-term care facilities and is also working closely with private nursing home and assisted living associations on the adoption of similar guidelines.