

Our Vision: Healthy People in Healthy Communities Adams, Clay, Nuckolls and Webster Counties

For Immediate Release: May 1, 2020

For more information contact: Michele Bever, PhD, MPH, Executive Director

402-462-6211 / 1-877-238-7595

SHDHD reports 25 new COVID-19 cases; 107 have recovered since March 18 Revised State Directed DHM will take effect at 12:00 am May 4

Hastings, Neb – South Heartland District Health Department (SHDHD) officials reported twenty-five (25) new COVID-19 positive cases today. This brings the total number of cases in the 4-county health district to 207, including 192 in Adams County, ten (10) in Clay County, five (5) in Webster County, and zero (0) in Nuckolls County. The Department also reports that 107 infected individuals have recovered since the first case was reported on March 18.

New cases in Clay County:

• 1 male in his 20s

New cases in Adams County:

- 16 females (1 child, 1 under 20, 4 in their 20s, 5 in their 30s, 2 in their 40s, 1 in her 50s, 2 in their 60s)
- 8 males (2 in their 20s, 1 in his 30s, 2 in their 40s, 2 in their 50s, 1 in his 60s)

The increase in positive lab reports today was expected due to increased testing in the district earlier in the week at a National Guard testing event. A summary of the test results from the 2-day event will be provided when all of the results are reported back to SHDHD. The health department continues to conduct contact investigations for positive individuals who live in South Heartland counties.

Residents who are ill or have any symptoms consistent with coronavirus disease should stay home from work and isolate at home to avoid spreading the illness to others.

Bever reminds residents that people may have very mild or no symptoms at all, but the virus can spread easily through close person to person contact. "It is gatherings and close contact at work or other settings which often result in new cases of COVID-19," she said.

Yesterday Governor Ricketts reminded Nebraskans that the 10-person rule for gatherings remains in effect through the month of May and encouraged residents to only celebrate and gather with their households.

The revised directed health measures (DHM) issued by the Governor and Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS) for South Heartland District's four counties will be effective at 12:00 am on May 4, 2020 and continue until May 31, 2020.

All restrictions from the previous DHMs will continue through May 31, 2020, except for elective surgeries/procedures and religious services (to include wedding and funerals). NDHHS developed COVID-19 Guidelines for the Conduct of Faith-Based Services, which can be found on the South Heartland website: https://southheartlandhealth.org/public-health-data/corona-virus.html.

South Heartland District case counts by county are updated daily on SHDHD's COVID webpage: https://southheartlandhealth.org/public-health-data/corona-virus.html. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) provides daily updates to Nebraska's coronavirus COVID-19 cases on their Data Dashboard at http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Coronavirus.