

Thursday, June 11, 2020 Local Briefing Notes

Locally

Four additional active positive cases are being reported today in Cherokee County. Today's four cases are juvenile household members of one of our other current active positive cases. This brings our total current active positive case count to 6. We have 10 previous cases, who have recovered.

Statewide

This morning Dr. Lee Norman, Kansas Secretary of Health and Environment, reported upticks in the Kansas City Metro area as well as other parts of our state and country, noting it will be really important to closely monitor things, including public events for the next couple of months.

He went on to say they (KDHE) is working on providing guidance and suggestions to K-12 schools. He stressed the importance of making decisions which are fact based, and further stated, despite the unpopularity of the difficult decisions including the early closing of schools, they helped reduce the spread of the disease and were effective.

There are 37 states (including Kansas) which are reporting over 10,000 cases each. Just as last week, the current trend line continues to decrease but is starting to flatten. There was a downward trend last week and this week in hospitalizations with more of a flattening this week.

The trend on deaths last week increased and this week also shows a slight increase.

The state is currently seeing about 100 new cases per day.

Kansas' case rate is 3.71 cases per 1,000 population.

There have been 123,537 unique people in Kansas have been tested so far, meeting their target.

They will have a target of 6% tests by the end of July.

Since tracking in Kansas began, there have been 156 outbreaks identified. Of the identified outbreaks, 61 are closed and 95 remain active. The breakdown of sources from those outbreaks are:

Private Businesses – 59 outbreaks with 3,338 positive cases and 15 deaths

Long-Term Care Facilities – 21 outbreaks with 369 positive cases and 52 deaths

Gatherings (Mother's Day, Graduations, Lake Party, Church and Funerals) – 6 outbreaks with 70 positive cases and 1 death

Health Care Facilities – 3 outbreaks with 17 positive cases and 0 deaths

Group Living – 2 outbreaks with 25 positive cases and 1 death

Newly released studies confirm social distancing and wearing of masks have helped to reduce the spread.

Not all the labs in the State of Kansas are operating at capacity, but they are working to continue increasing capabilities.

Governor Kelly and Dr. Norman's weekly press conference schedule has changed from Monday, Wednesday and Friday's to Monday and Thursday's at 4:00 p.m.

The state does asymptomatic testing in certain situations (typically congregant setting like long term care facilities) but for individual diagnosis still need to meet PUI criteria before. However, medical providers may send the sample to a private lab.

There were discussions about the possibility of allowing visitors at nursing home facilities. The Kansas Department of Aging and Disabilities is working on guidance which should be published in the coming days. (KDADS provided an update on the afternoon phone call. Info below)

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment reviews data from other states on a weekly basis and uses that information to base decisions on whether or not to modify or update the Kansas travel restriction list.

During our 1:00 afternoon call with the Kansas Emergency Operations Center the following was discussed:

The KDADS Guidance on re-opening for nursing home facilities will be completed tomorrow and will go directly to nursing homes as well as be posted on their website.

There is potential for additional outbreaks as we move forward so the state will be sending out an email survey (today or tomorrow to county emergency managers, health care partners / hospitals and health department officials) in an effort to help shape outbreak response across the state and country over the next several months.

An attorney with KDHE provided information regarding how recent legislation impacts the COVID-19 response, including contact tracing.

Nationwide

John Hopkins University reports 7,277,489 COVID-19 cases worldwide since tracking began. This includes 412,111 deaths reported globally. Domestically, they report 2,000,600 positive cases, 112,925 deaths and 533,504 recovered.

Below is our local daily positive report.

Thanks!
Sheriff David Groves