

MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: AZ Snyder FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Email: ayslinn.snyder@co.pierce.wi.us Date: 3/22/2020 at 12:00 pm

Phone: 715-273-6755

Pierce County Public Health Confirms Second Case of COVID-19 in Pierce County 3/22/2020

Pierce County Public Health Department announced today that a second person has tested positive for COVID-19. The positive person, as well as household contacts, are cooperating with isolation at home and are doing well. Pierce County Public Health will not be providing further information about this individual to protect their privacy. County health officials are working to determine the people who have been in close contact with the patient to warn them to quarantine and if they develop symptoms, practice isolation within the home.

"While this news is concerning, it was not unexpected. It is currently unknown where the positive COVID-19 person was exposed. We urge residents to cancel non-essential travel at this time. If you must travel via plane or any other confined means of transportation, we recommend you self-quarantine for 14 days after you return and monitor yourself closely for symptoms, including fever and cough" said AZ Snyder, Health Officer.

Pierce County Public Health continues to work closely with our clinical partners to ensure rigorous surveillance for COVID-19.

We continue to recommend the following CDC measures for all community members:

- Voluntary Home Isolation: Stay home when you are sick with respiratory disease symptoms. At
 the present time, these symptoms are more likely due to influenza or other respiratory viruses
 than to COVID-19-related virus.
- Respiratory Etiquette: Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw it in the trash can.
- Hand Hygiene: Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with 60%-95% alcohol.
- Environmental Health Action: Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces and objects.

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We urge you to keep informed through reliable sources of information:

WI DHS: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/coronavirus.htm

CDC: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs): https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html

Business Community: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidancebusiness-

response.html

School District: https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/2019-novel-coronavirus

Travelers: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html

Public: https://www.ready.gov/pandemic

In Wisconsin, please call 211 if you have questions for the health department.

For Minnesota based cell phones (those without a 715 area code) please call 1-877-947-2211.

END



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