

April 14, 2020

Two New COVID-19 Cases in Campbell County

Gillette, WY—Campbell County Public Health has been notified of two additional lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19. The cases include a male and a female, both in their 40s. Both cases are currently quarantined in their home and had contact with a known lab-confirmed case. Contact tracing—which is important for identifying people who have had contact with the confirmed cases—is ongoing. The two new cases bring Campbell County’s cumulative positive case count to 13, with five cases currently active and eight recovered.

In addition to lab-confirmed cases, Campbell County has four probable cases. A probable case is defined as a close contact of a lab-confirmed case AND develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within 14 days. Close contact is defined as a person who has been in proximity (less than six-feet of physical separation for more than 10 minutes) to a lab-confirmed case. Due to limited testing materials, a probable case may not be tested; however, they are given isolation orders.

Public Health is currently monitoring 24 households with someone who has been identified as a possible positive. To date, 166 households have been released from monitoring.

“We are fortunate that Campbell County has only had 13 cases and no hospitalizations so far,” stated Public Health Director, Jane Glaser. “Though, as we have stated before, we anticipate Campbell County will continue to see an increase in the number of confirmed cases. We need everyone to continue diligently practicing social distancing. If the community lets its guard down too soon, we would likely see a spike in confirmed cases. We recognize it’s a tough situation that has negatively impacted our local and national economies. Right now, as a country and a community, we are delicately balancing the health of the public and the health of the economy. Timing on easing restrictions is a real concern. If we try to return to normal too soon, we risk a resurgence of the coronavirus. We need to be thoughtful and measured in easing mitigation strategies because if we get it wrong, the consequences on public health and the economy could be far worse,” Glaser added.

Many folks wonder why the response to the coronavirus has been so swift and life-altering. “What makes the coronavirus dangerous to humans is that it is “novel.” In other words, it is new to humans, and we don’t have an immunity to the virus,” explained Dr. Patel, County Health Officer. Another factor that makes coronavirus more dangerous is that we still know very little about this virus. We are learning quickly and adapting as more information

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becomes available. What we do know is that the virus travels through infectious droplets. That’s why public health experts have strongly emphasized physical separation (social distancing) from other people,” Patel continued.

Anyone of any age can get sick with COVID-19 and faces a chance of hospitalization. Staying away from others as much as possible helps protect ourselves, our families, and the members of our communities who are most vulnerable to this illness. Each of us has a responsibility to help reduce the spread of the coronavirus in our community. Be a good neighbor and stay home.

For more Campbell County COVID-19 related information, please visit Campbell County’s website ccgov.net/covid19.