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April 24, 2020  
4:00pm

**Franklin County COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center**  
**Update on the COVID-19 Outbreak at the Louisburg Nursing Center**

**From:**

Scott S. LaVigne, MSW, MBA  
Franklin County Health Director  
Public Information Officer, Franklin County COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

**Communication:**

Sadly, the Louisburg Nursing Center (202 Smoke Tree Way, Louisburg, NC 27549) reported an additional three (3) COVID-19 related Center-resident deaths since our last press release. This brings the facility's total number of COVID-19 outbreak-related fatalities to fourteen (14). Additionally, nine (9) of the center's residents remain hospitalized related to this outbreak.

As of the date and time of this release, the following has occurred for Residents of the Louisburg Nursing Center since the onset of this outbreak:

- 61 Initial Residents at the beginning of the outbreak;
- 53 total Residents have thus far tested Positive for Coronavirus;
- 14 of those Positive Residents have died related to COVID-19;
- 9 Positive Residents Remain in the Hospital with COVID-19;
- 30 Residents currently living at the facility are Positive for the coronavirus;
- 8 Residents living at the facility have remained negative for the virus thus far.

As of the date and time of this release, the facility has had a total of 12 staff test positive for the virus, and there have been **no** new lab-confirmed positive staff cases since the outbreak began.

The facility is actively working with the Franklin County Health Department, Franklin County EMS, and Maria Parham Hospital to do everything possible to mitigate the effects of this outbreak.

As of the date/time of this communication, the three (3) additional COVID-19 related Center deaths from this press-release have **already** been added to the Franklin County totals on the NCDHHS COVID-19 site today, Friday 4/24/2020. Look for more updates from the Franklin COVID-19 EOC as more information becomes available.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. LaVigne', is written over a horizontal line.

Scott S. LaVigne, MSW, MBA  
Franklin County Health Director  
Franklin County COVID-19 EOC – Public Information Officer

A handwritten date '4/24/2020' in blue ink is written over a horizontal line.

Date

## Steps We All Need to Take:

### Guidance for Those with Fever & Upper Respiratory Symptoms:

If you feel illness coming on, isolate yourself and call your doctor if your symptoms worsen. Everyone with fever and respiratory symptoms should isolate themselves from everyone until BOTH conditions below are met:

- At least 7 days since symptom onset.
- AND**
- Over 72 hours after symptom resolution (i.e. absence of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication and improvement of respiratory symptoms).

#### Close Contacts:

- Those with close contact to a person with fever or respiratory illness are encouraged to stay home to the extent possible, and to monitor themselves for symptoms.

### Recommendations:

What is important is that everyone do their part to keep us all safe:

- avoid touching your face;
- Wash your hands frequently & thoroughly using warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds (sing "Happy Birthday" twice, or use your own tune)
- use hand sanitizers frequently;
- cough/sneeze into your arm, or if you use a tissue, immediately throw it out and wash your hands.
- Isolate yourself from others if you're sick;
- stay home from work/school or going out anywhere if you feel the slightest bit sick.
- Everyone needs to avoid vulnerable populations, including: those over 65; those with underlying health conditions and/or weakened immune systems; and those who are pregnant.
- Do not group together, and certainly not in groups any larger than 10, and keep six (6) feet apart from anyone you don't live with.
- If you have to go out, please maintain at least 6 feet of space between you and others.
- If you have to go out, feel free to use a cloth covering to protect others from **you**, if you happen to have the virus but just aren't showing symptoms yet;
- Don't count on gloves or a cloth mask alone to keep you safe, wash your hands, don't touch your face, and use hand sanitizer if you have it.
- If you are lucky enough to have Personal Protective Equipment (gloves, masks etc.) use it correctly (wearing a pair of gloves everywhere you go means you now have collected everything you've been in contact with, on those gloves.)
- Live by the motto **"If they don't live with you in your house, then they can't come-in, and if you meet them in public, keep them at least 6 feet away."**