



Health Department
Scott S. LaVigne, MSW, MBA
Health Director
107 Industrial Drive, Suite C
Louisburg, NC 27549
919-496-8111
www.franklincountync.us
slavigne@franklincountync.us

April 13, 2020
10:15am

Franklin County COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center
Forty-seven (47) Confirmed Positive Coronavirus Cases and
Two (2) COVID-19 Related Deaths reported at 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:

After completing tests for sixty-one (61) patients, and Center staff, the Louisburg Nursing Center (202 Smoke Tree Way, Louisburg, NC 27549) now has a cumulative total of forty-seven (47) positive confirmed coronavirus cases at their facility: Thirty-five (35) residents; and twelve staff (12) staff members, of which two (2) staff are Franklin County Residents. Sadly, the Center has also reported two (2) COVID-19 related deaths, both of which occurred on 4/12/2020.

Franklin County COVID-19 EOC and the Health Department continue working closely with state officials, the Louisburg Nursing Center staff and their Parent Company personnel, to address the ongoing needs of this outbreak within the Center.

As of the date and time of this communication, not all of these new cases were included in our total found on the NCDHHS COVID-19 site, and since not all the Center's residents are officially listed as Franklin County residents, some of the patient-cases will be listed for those patients' home-counties. Furthermore, the two (2) COVID-19 related Center deaths are NOT yet included in the Franklin County totals found on the NCDHHS COVID-19 site, however we anticipate these two deaths and other non-center cases will be added to our county totals today (4/13/2020).

In order to maintain a consistent response to the virus in all long term care facilities within the county, the Franklin County COVID-19 EOC sent communications to all Skilled Nursing Facilities and Assisted Living Facilities in Franklin County, to remind them of the requirements for the protection of their residents and staff during this pandemic, and to request they inventory their PPE supplies to ensure adequacy in the event of an outbreak within their facilities.

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 '4/13/2020' 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."**