



Health Department
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May 12, 2020
5:00pm

Franklin County COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center
One (1) Louisburg Manor Assisted Living Staff Member and Two (2) Residents
Have Tested Positive For Coronavirus.

From:

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

Communication:

The Franklin County Health Department was informed on **5/7/2020** that one (1) **employee** of the **Louisburg** Manor Assisted Living Facility had tested positive for the coronavirus. Upon their receipt of this staff-member's result, the Manor immediately reported this positive test result to the Franklin County Health Department. The same day (**5/7/2020**) the Health Department dispatched a team to the Louisburg Manor in order to work with the facility in executing an outbreak prevention plan which includes facilitating the testing of all staff and all residents of the facility, a review of practices and inventory of personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies.

On Friday 5/8/2020, test samples were collected on over 130 individuals. An initial group of test results were received on Sunday 5/10/2020, with some additional results being received on Monday 5/11/20 and Tuesday 5/12/20. A number of individuals with "inconclusive" test results were re-tested on 5/11/2020, therefore this press release is being made with several staff-members' and residents' results still pending. At present, there are two (2) residents and one (1) staff member that have tested positive for the coronavirus. The facility is actively working with the Franklin County Health Department to contain this outbreak, and there will be a follow-up press release once outstanding test results are available.

Time-line for Release: While one coronavirus case in a facility resident or staff member must be reported to the Health Department, the Health Department only releases information on cases in congregate care settings where there is an **outbreak**, which is defined as 2 or more cases (in any combination of staff/residents) within the facility. Additionally, for this outbreak, information was released only after the majority of test-results were received, in order to provide as much information as possible with one press release. Look for more updates on this outbreak from the Franklin County 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 '5/12/2020' is written in blue ink 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 10 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."**