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Franklin County COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center
Two (2) additional COVID-19 Related Resident Deaths reported
From Louisburg Nursing Center, total outbreak-related deaths: Eight (8) Residents.

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 two (2) COVID-19 related Center-resident deaths. This brings the facility's total number of COVID-19 outbreak-related fatalities to eight (8). Additionally, three of the center's residents are currently hospitalized related to this outbreak.

Yesterday, 4/17/2020, members of the Franklin County COVID-19 EOC joined a group of other North Carolina Counties that are also grappling with COVID-19 outbreaks at congregate care facilities (i.e. Nursing Homes), to address the ongoing needs for addressing COVID-19 within these facilities, and to ensure that the remaining facilities within the county are maximally prepared for COVID-19 in their individual settings. Starting next week, in addition to the guidance already provided to-date, the Franklin County Health Department will be individually reaching out to leadership at all Nursing Homes and Assisted Living facilities in Franklin County to individually ensure that each facility has the latest guidance and the PPE needed to effectively prevent a COVID-19 outbreak, and if necessary, to effectively manage an outbreak should one occur. These non-regulatory outreach efforts are to ensure the Health Department and the Franklin County COVID-19 EOC can effectively advocate for these facilities to receive the training, PPE, and staffing needed to ensure the impact of COVID-19 is as low as possible in their respective facilities.

As of the date/time of this communication, we anticipate the one (1) COVID-19 related Center death from yesterday's press release (4/17/2020) and the two (2) from today's release will be added to the Franklin County totals on the NCDHHS COVID-19 site today, 4/18/2020. Look for more updates from the Franklin COVID-19 EOC as more information becomes available.

Scott S. LaVigne

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

4-18-2020

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."**