

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: March 20, 2020

END DATE: March 22, 2020

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Health Officer

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RE: Genesee County Health Department Reports First COVID-19 Cases

The Genesee County Health Department is reporting Genesee County's first presumptive positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). At this time there are four presumptive positive cases among Genesee County residents: three females ages 35, 22 and 15 years, and one male aged 54 years. All are recovering and self-isolating at home. The Genesee County Health Department has been working closely with the individuals to identify close contacts who may have been exposed. They will be contacted and assessed for symptoms and advised and monitored accordingly.

The Genesee County Health Department continues to recommend social distancing and other prevention strategies to reduce the spread of germs and protect everyone's health. There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

- Wash your hands often. Scrub with soap for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if you cannot wash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care. Call ahead before going to your healthcare provider.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Immediately wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces.



Do not go to the hospital emergency room unless essential. Emergency rooms need to be able to serve those with the most critical needs. If you have symptoms like cough, fever, or other respiratory problems, contact your personal healthcare provider or urgent care first. Inform the health care provider office if you have been in close contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19, or if you have recently traveled from an area with widespread COVID-19 illness.

For additional information about COVID-19 preparedness and response, please visit our website at www.gchd.us/coronavirus.

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