

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 9, 2020 at 2:30PM

Subject:

Union County COVID-19 Update: 4th confirmed positive case identified in Union County

Today the Center for Human Development, Inc. (CHD) is reporting one new Union County case of the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19. The new case brings Union County's total to four. There have been no COVID-19 related deaths in Union County. All this information is shared publically and additional information about cases can be found on the Oregon Health Authority website: <https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>

This new case was community acquired meaning that the individual does not have a direct epidemiological link to a known confirmed case. This means that the infection was acquired from an unknown source and place in the community. "We need to act as if every person we come in contact with is infectious. Do not go out into the community unless it is necessary. If you do have a necessary need to be in public wash your hands after touching shared surfaces and use a cloth face covering. The only sure way to prevent yourself from getting infected is to quarantine yourself from others." Center for Human Development, Communicable Disease Nurse, Elizabeth Sieders.

OHA and CHD are working to identify and isolate those who may have been in close contact with this individual in the last 14 days. If you are identified as someone that was a contact and may be at risk for COVID-19 you will be contacted. All Union County residents can monitor their symptoms and follow the steps outlined below if they do become ill.

We would like to provide the following reminders to Union County residents. We cannot share details about this individual. We follow current Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) guidelines when releasing this information to safeguard individuals protected personal health information. Under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 433.008(1), any information obtained by OHA or a local public health administrator in the course of an investigation of a reportable disease or disease outbreak is confidential. Such information is not subject to disclosure under the public records law.

We remind Union County residents that Oregon has declared a state of emergency ordering social distancing measures and an **Executive Order: Stay Home Except for Essential Needs**. Your risk of contracting the virus can be reduced by limiting contact with people outside of your household and maintaining six feet of distance from others when you leave your home for essential needs. We urge Union County residents to take the steps our federal and state government has outlined to reduce the spread and minimize the risk of becoming ill with the virus.

The CDC and OHA are now also recommending the use of cloth face coverings when leaving your home for essential purposes. The use of cloth face covering however does not replace social distancing, frequent hand washing, and avoiding others when sick. Additional information regarding the use of a cloth face cover is detailed below.

These steps also help protect members of our community who are most vulnerable to complications from COVID-19. Those considered "high risk" include adults 60 and older, or anyone with a serious health condition, including lung or heart problems, kidney disease, or diabetes, or anyone who has a suppressed immune system.

After someone contracts COVID-19, illness usually develops 2-14 days after exposure. The primary symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

If you have trouble breathing or feel very ill, consider contacting your healthcare provider. Many recover at home without seeing a healthcare provider. Individuals who feel very ill should seek appropriate care as follows:

- If it is an emergency, call 911.
- If it is not an emergency but you feel sick enough to need a medical appointment, call your doctor's office. Let your healthcare provider know you are concerned about COVID-19 before you visit.
- If you do not have a doctor or need help finding a clinic call 211 for a list of clinics near you.

Every resident should take these basic steps to protect those most at risk:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.

- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
- If you have to go into public wear a cloth face cover.
- Stay home if you feel ill.

If you need further information, please find additional information on our webpage www.chdinc.org/covid19 or call 211 or 971-673-1111.

Cloth Face Covers: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>
CDC - DIY Cloth Face Covering Instructions(.pdf, 756.94 KB) - 5 download(s)