

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 Public Health Update

Union County, Oregon — Center for Human Development (CHD) public health is reporting 22 new cases today, bringing the total case count for Union County to 771. CHD is saddened to report Union County's fifth COVID-19 related death.

Case counts continue to increase and many people who test positive are not sure how or where they became infected. Because of this, taking precautions to protect yourself and reduce the spread of COVID-19 are vital. Information on case counts, hospital and healthcare capacity, and zip code and age distribution of cases can be found on the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) website [Oregon Health Authority's COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#).

Individuals who feel very ill should seek appropriate care. If it is an emergency, call 911. For information on when to seek emergency medical attention visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>. If it is not an emergency but you feel sick enough to need a medical appointment, call your primary care provider. People with mild signs of COVID-19 should stay home, unless signs of illness are serious enough they would normally seek health care. **Call your health care provider before going in.** Make a plan for how to be seen to avoid spreading the illness to others. If you don't have a doctor, call 211 for a list of providers near you.

CHD is currently testing individuals identified through investigations or individuals that meet Oregon State Public Health Lab criteria. Additional community testing events are currently being planned. We are not testing individuals for travel needs. If you are interested in being tested we encourage you to contact your primary care provider.

It is vital that workplaces support employees who are required to quarantine and not ask them to go to work in these situations. We ask that local employers make it easy for people to make the choice to stay home by promoting working from home when possible, applying paid sick leave policies liberally, and linking employees to any workplace resources available. We also realize that for many employers and employees this is a difficult situation.

Multiple resources are available to help you stay at home through wraparound services including financial assistance, food bank information, grocery pickup/delivery, health insurance, and Veterans services. Information is available at <https://www.neonoregon.org/unioncovid19> by calling 541-962-1610 or by emailing covidwrapsvcs@union-county.org

The colder weather and holidays increase the amount of time people congregate indoors. Indoor activities do increase the risk of COVID-19 spreading. For more information on how to celebrate Fall and Winter holidays safely, visit the [CDC COVID-19 Holiday Celebrations](#) webpage.

Masks, face coverings or face shields are currently required statewide:

<https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/1e2288k.pdf>

If you need further general information about COVID-19, please visit our webpage www.chdinc.org/covid19 or call 211.

For more information:

- The public can call 211-information with general questions
- OHA Emerging Respiratory Disease page: www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus
- CDC COVID-19 page: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
- CDC Travel within the U.S.: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html>
- Center for Human Development: www.chdinc.org
- Oregon COVID-19 Testing Location Finder: <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-covid-19-testing>