IREDELL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
JANE HINSON, MS, BSN, RN
HEALTH DIRECTOR

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Iredell County Health Department

NEWS RELEASE

April 18th, 2020
7:30 AM

Contact: Megan Redford, Public Information Officer
704-924-4089 Office
704-832-2396 Fax
megan.redford@co.iredell.nc.us

Iredell County Confirms COVID-19 at a Long-Term Care Facility

The Iredell County Health Department received notice on April 17, 2020 of an outbreak of COVID-19 in a long-term care facility. At this time, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services considers two or more cases in a long-term care facility to be an outbreak.

The Iredell County Health Department is working with this facility to conduct contact tracing. The facility continues to implement strict visitor restrictions and infection control precautions to prevent any further spread of COVID-19. This long-term care facility will work in conjunction with the Iredell County Health Department to have all residents and employees tested for COVID-19 as a precautionary measure.

At this time, no other individuals at the facility have exhibited signs or symptoms associated with COVID-19. The skilled nursing staff of the long-term care facility are continuing to provide quality care to all residents, with resident and staff safety being the utmost priority.

The Iredell County Health Department has been encouraging all long-term care facilities in Iredell County to follow Centers for Disease Control & Prevention guidelines and state directives meant to curb the spread of COVID-19. A key part of these directives includes restricting visitation of all visitors and non-essential health care personnel as well as strictly adhering to infection prevention practices.

Iredell County Public Health Officials continue to encourage individuals to protect themselves to help lessen the spread of COVID-19. How to protect yourself and others:

- Follow the Stay at Home Order
- Practice social distancing, which means avoiding gatherings of more than 10 people and keeping 6 feet or more between yourself and others
- Frequent hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol

Central Office
318 Turnersburg Hwy
Statesville, NC 28625
704-878-5300

Mooresville Site
610 E. Center Avenue
Mooresville, NC 28115
704-664-5281

Environmental Health
349 N. Center Street
Statesville, NC 28677
704-878-5305 x3456

www.co.iredell.nc.us/161/Health-Department

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw it in the trash
- Stay home when you're sick
- Keep distance from others who are sick
- Avoid touching your face
- Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces in common areas like doorknobs, remotes, light switches, tables and handles
- Wear cloth mask or face covering when out in public where you may be around people, like grocery stores or pharmacies, and still try to practice social distancing

Individuals with general questions about COVID-19 or who need access to support services can call **2-1-1** (or 888-892-1162) for assistance 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

Additional information related to COVID-19 can be found at the following resources:

NCDHHS-DPH: www.ncdhhs.gov/covid19

CDC: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

Iredell County Health Department: https://nc-iredellcounty.civicplus.com/1383/Coronavirus-COVID-19

NC 2-1-1: Call 2-1-1 or 888-892-1162 or text COVIDNC to 898211

.

###