



Florence County Health Department

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NEWS RELEASE

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SECOND CASE OF COVID-19 CONFIRMED IN FLORENCE COUNTY

Florence/WI—

Florence County Public Health officials have confirmed a second person that has been diagnosed with novel coronavirus infection (COVID-19) in Florence County. The individual is in isolation and no further information is being released to protect the person's privacy. The case is unrelated to the first case of COVID-19 diagnosed on Saturday, April 4. County health officials are working to determine how the individuals may have become infected and are contacting others with whom the positive cases had close contact with.

When in public, one may come in contact with someone that has COVID-19. Currently, not everyone is getting tested for the virus, so there are likely unidentified positive cases in our communities. Many people that have COVID-19 don't have any symptoms; this means that they can spread COVID-19 to others and not even know it.

Public Health officials are using the term social or physical distancing. Currently, it is the only effective means of decreasing the spread of infection. Florence County Health Department continues to urge the public to limit their contacts overall--no dinner parties, no sleep overs, no kids at the playgrounds, and no gatherings. People need to be in contact with as few people as possible.

During these challenging times, government and faith communities throughout Wisconsin need to work together to stop the spread of COVID. We appreciate that faith based entities continue to support the Safer At Home order to offer services online and other programs to follow the Governor's order. We strongly encourage everyone to continue to practice and promote social distancing and avoiding direct contact through mass gatherings. This is the only effective means of reducing the spread of COVID. Any type of gathering can increase a risk of exposure. This disease is especially difficult for the elderly and vulnerable populations.

Florence County Health Officer/Director stated, "We are all in this together. Thank you for the important role you fulfill in supporting each other emotionally. We are living in unprecedented experiences in our lifetimes. It is a time to support each other through dissemination of accurate

information, following public health guidelines, and encouraging each other with comfort and hope”. Finally, please help to continue to share prevention strategies:

- Frequent and thorough handwashing with soap and water.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Stay home when sick.
- Practice social distancing.

COVID-19 continues to evolve and our strategies to combat the spread. For the latest information, visit the [CDC's website](#), the [DHS website](#), or the Florence County Health Department Facebook or website at <http://www.florencecountywi.com/>.

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