

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 Public Health Update

Union County, Oregon — Center for Human Development (CHD) public health is reporting two new cases. The total case count is 379.

Over the past three weeks, demand for COVID-19 testing has increased greatly across the state and nation. This has directly impacted the laboratories ability to process and release results as expected. Due to this significant delay the Center for Human Development will be temporarily suspending testing and testing clinics. Testing will be limited to individuals identified through investigations or individuals that meet Oregon State Public Health Lab criteria. We are currently still experiencing significant delays in receiving lab results on previous tests. Notifications will be made as quickly as possible. Testing is still being offered throughout the community. If you are interested in being tested we encourage you to contact your primary care provider.

We understand that our community is concerned about how our positive cases are doing and care about whether they are moving in a positive direction. The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) was calling positive cases on a weekly basis to assess symptoms and report recovered cases. Due to the progression of cases in the state, the OHA has reported that they are no longer making these calls or assessing this information. Recovered data is still being reported on the OHA website but may not be reflective of actual recovery rates. Due to inaccuracies in data we will no longer be reporting recovered numbers.

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 to 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 that this is a difficult situation. Multiple resources are available through wraparound services to include financial assistance, food bank information, grocery pickup/delivery, health insurance, and Veterans services. Information is available by calling 541-663-4252 or covidwrapsvcs@union-county.org

Masks, face shields and face coverings are currently required statewide for indoor public spaces (for example, grocery stores, pharmacies, public transit, personal services providers, restaurants, bars, retail stores, and more). In addition, face coverings are required in outdoor public spaces when physical distancing is not possible, effective July 15th. Children over the age of 2 and under the age of 12 are recommended, but not required, to wear a mask, face shield or face covering. People with a disability or medical condition may request accommodation from the business if they cannot wear a mask, face shield or face covering.

Mask guidance: <https://sharesystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/1e2288K.pdf>

Mask required sign for businesses: <https://sharesystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/1e2728.pdf>

Mask facts: <https://sharesystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/1e2390L.pdf>

Making your own face covering: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-make-cloth-face-covering.html>

People who have mild signs of COVID-19 should stay home, unless the 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, while also avoiding spread of the illness to others.

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. If you don't have a doctor, call 211 for a list of providers near you.

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

COVID-19 Union County update 7/17/2020

Total Cases- 379

Deaths- 2

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