Public Information Statement

March 30, 2020

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
GRANT COUNTY, WI COVID-19 UPDATE

COVID-19 Update *Second Confirmed Case Identified in Grant County*

Lancaster, WI—The Grant County Health Department announced today that a second confirmed COVID-19 case has been identified in Grant County. The person, in their 70's, had traveled internationally. The person has not been hospitalized and has remained home under isolation since returning from traveling as requested by local, state, and federal recommendations.

"Health department staff will stay in contact with the individual to monitor their health care needs and to help ensure that they are able to remain isolated at home while they recover" said Jeff Kindrai, Director/Health Officer for Grant County Health Department

The Grant County Health Department and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) responsibilities include:

- Identifying and contacting anyone who has been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19. These people are asked to quarantine themselves for 14 days from their last exposure and will be monitored for fever and respiratory symptoms.
- Determining when a person can be released from isolation or quarantine.
- Providing guidance to clinicians regarding testing.
- Preparing our communities to control the spread of COVID-19.

The Grant County Health Department is maintaining staffing 7 days a week with increased 24/7 on call coverage to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Grant County Health Department asks that all individuals do their part and abide by the Safer at Home Order. Just stay home if you can.

To protect yourself follow these tips:

- Stay at home.
- Practice social distancing. Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid unnecessary contact with others
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water.

- Cover all coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Stay home and away from others if you are sick.

All individuals should monitor their health for symptoms of COVID-19 like illness which include any of the following:

- measured temperature >100.0F*
- new or worsening cough
- new or worsening shortness of breath
- sore throat
- body aches

If someone becomes ill even with relatively mild respiratory illness they should

- Stay home. This means do not go to work, school, or public areas. If you need medical care, it is important you call first.
- While at home separate yourself from other people in your home (as you would if you had the flu).
- Avoid sharing personal household items. After using these items, they should be washed thoroughly with soap and water.
- Wash your hands often and practice good hygiene.
- Monitor your temperature.
- Watch for a worsening cough or difficulty breathing. If breathing becomes difficult contact your primary health care provider by phone for instruction.
- If experiencing a life threatening emergency inform the 911 dispatch center if you have respiratory symptoms so they can better prepare to assist you.

Individuals with mild to moderate symptoms of COVID-19 like illness should stay home and separated from others until well for 72 hours without the use of medication and at least 7 days from onset of symptoms whichever is longer.

This is a rapidly evolving situation. For the latest information, visit www.co.grant.wi.gov or https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm. Or call the Grant County Health Department at 608 723-6416.

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