



ST. JOSEPH CONFIRMS TWO POSITIVE CASES OF COVID-19

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The City of St. Joseph has confirmed two positive cases of COVID-19 in the community. The first positive is a female in her twenties and is staying at home with family in St. Joseph. The individual has a recent travel history. The individual reported to the Clinton County testing site and was tested through a private lab.

The second positive is a female in her thirties. This individual was tested through Northwest Health Services, lives in Buchanan County and is staying at home. This individual has no confirmed travel history.

No other information will be provided about the individuals.

The city's health department, in coordination with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, will conduct a joint public health investigation of the cases, to include identification of contacts of the positive cases. Additionally, the city's health department is prepared to assist Mosaic Life Care and Northwest Health Services with additional cases that may present in our community.

Avoiding exposure is the best way to prevent the illness as there is currently no vaccine or medications available to prevent or treat COVID-19. Other preventative actions to help prevent the spread of virus include:

- Social distancing to avoid close contact with others.
- Voluntary home isolation: stay home if showing symptoms of the virus.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. As a backup to the lack of soap and water, use an alcohol-based sanitizer.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces regularly.
- Comply with the shelter in place order.

It is also important to know what to do if you become ill.

- Stay home if you become ill, except to seek medical care.
- Separate yourself from others in your home.
- If you need to see a medical professional, call ahead before arriving at a clinic, hospital or urgent care center.
- Wear a facemask if you are ill and around other people, such as when you seek medical care. It not recommended for the general public to wear a facemask.
- Use good cough and sneeze etiquette.
- Clean your hands often
- Avoid sharing personal household items with other family members.
- Clean all frequently touched surfaces often.
- Monitor your symptoms (and call ahead if you need care).

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