

## To Protect, Promote and Prioritize the Health of Our Entire Community

For Immediate Release: April 22, 2020 Contact: Dr. Adi Pour, (402) 444-7471

Phil Rooney, (402) 444-6427, (402) 669-1602

## **DCHD:** Time to Crush the Virus

The Douglas County Health Department is asking all of the news media and every member of the public to go to <a href="https://www.testnebraska.com">https://www.testnebraska.com</a> and complete the questionnaire posted there. This will show public health the extent to which COVID-19 is established in our area and help the State of Nebraska develop targeting strategies for testing while helping to form policies to ease restrictions.

"Please share this information with everyone you know," Health Director Dr. Adi Pour said. "Working together we can crush the virus."

On Wednesday, April 22, the Health Department confirmed 20 new cases of COVID-19 in Douglas County. That brings the total number of cases in the county to 325 since the start of the outbreak. There are 12 females and eight males included in these test results with an age range of 12 to 63 years. Seven of these individuals had contact with a known case, five were community-acquired, two cases came about due from travel and six cases remain under investigation. There are no known hospitalizations among these individuals.

As of Tuesday night, local hospitals reported 592 medical surge beds were available and 44 patients were hospitalized with COVID-19. Of the 398 ventilators available to area hospitals, 106 were in use, including 15 for confirmed COVID-19 patients.

Remember, the COVID-19 symptoms may include a fever, cough, sore throat, severe fatigue or difficulty breathing. In most cases a person will have more than one symptom. Anyone who has COVID-19 symptoms should contact their health care provider and tell them how you are feeling and discuss any possible exposure history. Please call ahead before you go to the doctor's office or an emergency room.

DCHD's information line is open daily at (402) 444-3400 from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. In addition, the Nebraska DHHS COVID-19 information line is open from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. at (402) 552-6645. Calls are taken 24 hours a day at the United Way's 2-1-1 Information Line.

Adi Pour, Ph.D., Director 1111 South 41<sup>st</sup> Street Omaha, NE 68105

www.douglascountyhealth.com