

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

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## **Considering Our Seniors**

We know senior citizens are among those most at-risk from complications due to the COVID-19 outbreak, and the Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) has heard of some added concerns from this group. A big one is in regard to the use of technology for telehealth.

"Many seniors have limited access to technology and limited experience with much of it," Health Director Dr. Adi Pour said. "Please keep this in mind and be flexible and patient when serving them."

Dr. Pour also encouraged everyone to continue to wear a mask during any interaction with others, especially at health care clinics, and practice social distancing.

On Monday, May 11, the Health Department reported 39 new cases of COVID-19 in the county. Nebraska DHHS has told the Health Department that the low number is due to a glitch in the laboratory reporting system.

DCHD is working on developing further data from these newest cases. That brings the total number of COVID-19 cases reported here to 1,635 since the start of the outbreak. Just less than 22 percent of tests administered last week were positive, marking the second week of positive test results topping the 20 percent mark.

DCDH also sadly must report another death. A woman over 90 has passed away due to complications from COVID-19. She is the county's 21st death related to the disease.

As of Saturday night, local hospitals reported 522 medical surge beds were available and 96 patients were hospitalized with COVID-19. Of the 373 ventilators available to area hospitals, 148 were in use, including 38 for confirmed COVID-19 patients. DCHD has confirmed 247 county residents have recovered from the illness.

Symptoms of COVID-19 may include, but are not limited to, a fever, cough, sore throat, severe fatigue, or difficulty breathing. In most cases, a person will have more than one symptom. If you have COVID-19 symptoms, please contact your health care provider before you go to their office and tell them how you are feeling, and discuss any possible exposure history.

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