## Joint Public Service Announcement

Date: 10.20.2020

Contact: Arissa Hunt (630) 553.9100





Together, the Kendall County Board and Health Department officials urge residents to work collectively to slow the community transmission of COVID-19. COVID-19 activity in Kendall County is on the rise, and trending in the wrong direction which could trigger additional mitigation measures to combat a resurgence of COVID-19. Residents are strongly encouraged to follow personal preventive measures and stay home when they are sick.

As the Health Department works to understand the behaviors and types of exposures contributing to this concerning uptick among individual cases, "COVID fatigue" seems to be a factor influencing the increased spread. Increasingly, we are receiving reports of individuals not adhering to preventive measures and overlooking the risks of gathering with friends and family from different households. During these gatherings, individuals are not wearing masks and are having long, close interactions in indoor settings; therefore, increasing their risk of transmitting the virus.

As the weather turns colder and people begin gathering indoors, there is more opportunity for community spread. We know this virus spreads rapidly and isn't very forgiving, especially indoors. We understand people are feeling tired, but we can't let our guard down, we must remain focused on working together as a community to slow the spread of the virus and keep our friends, loved ones and neighbors safe.

At this time, additional mitigations have not been imposed on the County by the State. However, we understand that if we do not change course, additional mitigations could be imminent and will further impact residents, local businesses and their employees. Together, we remind everyone to keep following public health guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often;
- Wear a mask whenever outside your home;
- Watch your distance, staying at least 6 feet from people outside of your immediate household and avoiding crowds; and
- Stay home if you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, or if you have been in close contact with a person infected with COVID-19.

People with COVID-19 need to self-isolate at home (except for medical visits) for at least ten days. Also, people who have had close contact with someone who has COVID-19 need to self-quarantine for at least 14 days while monitoring their symptoms. Close contacts are advised to seek COVID-19 testing five to seven days after exposure. Testing negative during the 14-day quarantine does not supersede the need to quarantine for 14 days; a close contact cannot "test out of" their full quarantine period.

For more information on COVID-19, please call (630)553-9100 or visit the Health Department's website at <u>www.kendallhealth.org</u>.