

CARTERET COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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04/22/2020
For Immediate Release

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Carteret County COVID-19 Third Death of Confirmed COVID-19 Resident Press Release #39

Carteret County, NC – On April 22, 2020, Carteret County Health Department reported that a third Carteret County resident died from complications associated with COVID-19. The resident was in their 90's and considered high risk for the virus due to age and underlying medical conditions. To protect the family's privacy, no further information about this patient will be released.

“We were sad to learn that another resident had passed due to the COVID-19 virus. The Health Department extends our deepest sympathies to the family and loved ones of our resident,” said Health Director, Stephanie Cannon. “In order to reduce the spread in our community, it is incredibly important that everyone continue stay at home, practice social distancing when conducting essential business, and employ preventive measures such as wearing a face covering, cleaning/disinfecting surfaces frequently and washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. We must take action to protect ourselves and those most at risk in our community”

To date, Carteret County has had 27 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19. Of those 27 cases, 5 are active cases, 19 patients have recovered and have satisfied the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) isolation requirements and 3 are deceased.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), most people who get COVID-19 will recover without needing medical care. For that reason, people who think they have COVID-19 showing mild symptoms such as fever and cough without shortness of breath or difficulty breathing are encouraged to isolate themselves at home, separate themselves from others within the household as much as possible, and call their medical provider for advice.

It is extremely important for people at higher risk of getting sick with COVID-19 to call their medical provider if they develop symptoms of fever or cough. High-risk individuals include:

- Are 65 years or older
- Live in a nursing home or long-term care facility
- Have compromised immune systems
- Severe obesity-body mass index of 40 or higher
- Other underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, such as diabetes, renal failure or liver disease
- People who are pregnant should be monitored since they are known to be at risk for severe viral illnesses.

For individuals with more serious or worsening symptoms, please call your medical provider or 911 immediately. Those symptoms include worsening shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chest pain or pressure, confusion, or blue lips.

For more information on COVID-19 in Carteret County, call the Citizens Inquiry Hotline at 252-728-7060.

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