Central Michigan District Health Department

Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities

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PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

To: Local News Media

From: Central Michigan District Health Department

RE: Second Death from COVID-19 in Jurisdiction

Release Date: April 2, 2020

The Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) received notification this afternoon of the second local death in Isabella County attributed to COVID-19. The individual was an elderly female resident of Isabella County who was admitted to McLaren Central Michigan in Mount Pleasant on March 31st with severe symptoms and passed away on April 1, 2020. Lab results were received today, April 2, 2020, indicating that this individual was positive for COVID-19.

"We wish to express our heartfelt sympathies to the family who have lost their loved one," said Steve Hall, Health Officer at CMDHD. "This is a tragic reminder of how serious a threat COVID-19 is to our community. It's crucial for residents to be aware of the virus and the efforts necessary to prevent its spread."

As this situation continues to evolve, we ask all of our residents to take the appropriate precautions. Strong community mitigation and prevention measures are already in place, and we urge residents to continue to follow recommendations:

- Stay at home. Do not leave home except for essential tasks such as getting groceries or seeking medical care.
- If you must go out, stay at least 6 feet away from others and avoid any gatherings.
- Wash your hands frequently for at least twenty seconds.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Disinfect commonly touched surfaces.
- Check on others. Call your loved ones and neighbors who are most at risk and see how they are doing. If they require something essential, see how you can help.

Stay current on coronavirus information at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus; www.michigan.gov/coronavirus or https://www.cmdhd.org/novel-coronavirus.

In addition, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has a hotline number that Michigan residents can call to ask questions about COVID-19. The number is 1-888-535-6136 and is available seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Residents can also send an email to: COVID19@michigan.gov. Emails will be answered seven days a week between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

This article has been brought to you by Central Michigan District Health Department, which serves the counties of Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola and Roscommon. Visit our website at www.cmdhd.org, LIKE Central Michigan District Health Department on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @CMiDHD.

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To request an interview, please visit our website (cmdhd.org) and fill out the Media Interview Request Form. No in-person interviews are being given at this time by Central Michigan District Health Department.