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Mike Bell, County Commissioner

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Humboldt County Health Board

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 194 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 44 ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of two more positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county's total to 194.

Overall, 151 of Humboldt County's cases were identified through Humboldt General Hospital, one was identified through community-based screening, 10 were identified through the Golden Valley Medical Center, 15 were identified through testing at the Ridley's Pharmacy, and 17 were confirmed out of area.

In addition, the Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse has completed 60 tests, with 58 negative and two results pending. Any positives through the Community Health Nurse are reported as part of Humboldt County's total number of cases.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe is reporting 113 total cases; 97 were confirmed through the Fort McDermitt Wellness Center, eight were tested out of area, while eight were tested through the National Guard community-based testing on July 26. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 1,389 tests, 106 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has six active cases.

Based on available information, close contacts of the newest Humboldt County cases are being identified or have been notified and are following self-isolation procedures to prevent community spread of the virus.

Brief summary information of Humboldt County's latest cases follows:

- Case 194 – A woman in her 50s, whose case remains under investigation. She is hospitalized.
- Case 193 – A man in his 40s, who is a close contact of a previously reported case. He is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 192 cases, 146 have recovered, 40 are self-isolating, three are hospitalized, and four have died; Humboldt County has 44 active cases.

As confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Humboldt County continue to rise to their highest levels yet, officials are calling for one of the most important resources to help curb the spread of the pandemic: contact tracers.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said contact tracers play a crucial role in the battle to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

“This is a paid part-time position,” he said, “but if you enjoy helping others, especially in critical ways and would like to help make a difference in our community, this might be a wonderful way for you to make a contribution.”

Tracers work together to call people who have tested positive for the virus as well as those who may have had contact with a positive case.

Humboldt County is looking to add approximately six more contact tracers to the Humboldt County Fast Team. Tracers may come from all walks of life, ages and educational backgrounds, but the doctor said the most successful candidates will be extremely detail-oriented with a desire to make a difference.

Because contact tracers deal with private patient information, they must have the ability to work confidentially. The right candidates also will exhibit a great deal of kindness and compassion.

To learn more about being a part-time, home-based contact tracer, please call Humboldt County Manager Dave Mendiola at (775) 623-6300, or email at COVID19@humboldtcountynv.gov.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Humboldt County:

- Stay home to limit exposure, and wear a facial covering if going out in public is necessary.
- Maintain 6 feet of distance from other people at all times.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid visiting sick people or those who are self-isolating.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Self-isolate if they have had a known exposure, or if they are awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- Stay informed. The COVID-19 situation is changing frequently. Up-to-date information is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [website](#).

The Humboldt General Hospital Screening Clinic has moved to the HGH West Campus, located at 51 E. Haskell Street. From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, the clinic offers drive-thru screening for asymptomatic and symptomatic persons. Those who are experiencing severe COVID-like symptoms should go directly to the HGH Emergency Department.

The Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse also is offering testing to asymptomatic persons with no known exposure. For more information or to make an appointment, residents may call the clinic at (775) 623-6575.

Free cloth masks are available to community members at the Olsen’s and Ridley’s pharmacies, courtesy of the Mucca Mask Makers, or by messaging the group on Facebook [@Mucca Mask Makers](#).

Local COVID-19 information is available in Spanish [@CovidEspanol](#). Humboldt County COVID-19 updates and information are available in English at [@HumboldtCountyNV](#) and [@StopHumboldtCoronavirus](#).