

Chair & County Health Officer,

Dr. Charles Stringham

Board Members,

Ken Tipton, County Commission Chair

Marlene Brissenden, County Commissioner

Jim French, County Commissioner

Ron Cerri, County Commissioner

Mike Bell, County Commissioner

Mike Allen, Humboldt County Sheriff

Humboldt County Health Board

Humboldt County Courthouse
50 West Fifth Street Room 205
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445



November 19, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Nicole Maher, PIO
Humboldt County Health Board
Phone: (775) 761-2624
Email: nicole@winnemucca.net

HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 262 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 60 ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of four more positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county's total to 262.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe is reporting 136 positive cases; 120 were confirmed through the Fort McDermitt Wellness Center, eight were tested out of area, and eight were tested through the National Guard community-based testing on July 26. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 2,044 tests, 115 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has 20 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 262 – A woman in her 70s, whose case remains under investigation. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 261 – A woman in her 60s, who is a close contact of a previously reported case. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 260 – A man in his 60s, who had contact with a previously reported case. He is self-isolating at home.
- Case 259 – A woman in her 40s, whose case remains under investigation. She is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 258 cases, 198 have recovered, 51 are self-isolating, five are hospitalized, and four have died; Humboldt County has 60 active cases.

On Tuesday, November 10, Governor Steve Sisolak initiated "Stay at Home 2.0," asking Nevadans to try to help calm the virus in order to allow the public health response infrastructure to catch up.

The governor said he hoped the two-week initiative would bring about a behavior change that would result in a downward trajectory at the end of the 14-day period, which ends on Tuesday, November 24.

However, the governor disclosed yesterday that one week into the two-week "Stay at Home" period,

Nevada is not seeing any significant downward trends.

The governor reiterated he is incredibly concerned about the severity of COVID-19 in Nevada, as demonstrated by the increase in numbers. That concern is echoed by Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD.

“Every county in the state including Humboldt is exploring every possible mitigation option available to get this under control,” said Dr. Stringham. “It’s a balancing act between protecting our public health and preserving our fragile economy.”

Still, while choices may be somewhat muddled for municipalities, for individuals, the doctor said the choice is perfectly clear.

“I hope you will choose to consistently do the right things—to socially distance from others, to always wear a mask, and to wash your hands frequently,” said Dr. Stringham. “In making these choices, you’re exercising the power to stop this virus at your own doorstep.”

The doctor said those who disregard these recommendations are left to hope that no one with whom they have contact is infected—“and luck is a bad safety strategy,” he said.

“The power you exercise over this virus comes from your own actions—what you choose to do—so make the right decisions for yourself and your loved ones. Stand up and take control, and let’s stop this virus!”

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](#).

COVID-19 testing locations in Humboldt County include:

- **Humboldt General Hospital Screening Clinic** - Offers drive-thru screening for asymptomatic and symptomatic persons. Open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 51 E. Haskell Street, across from Humboldt General Hospital. Call the posted number and then wait for assistance.
- **Golden Valley Medical Center** - Private clinic owned by Nevada Gold offers screening for asymptomatic and symptomatic persons. Call (775) 625-4653 for an appointment.
- **Ridley's Pharmacy** - Offers in-vehicle, self-administered asymptomatic and symptomatic testing. Go [here](#) and follow the prompts to schedule an appointment.

- **HGH Emergency Department** - Those who experience severe COVID-like symptoms should go directly to the HGH Emergency Department, which is open 24 hours a day, or call 9-1-1 for emergency assistance.

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.

###