



Pike County Health Department

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PRESS RELEASE – NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pittsfield, IL – In response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Pike County Health Department (PCHD) staff have partially activated their Emergency Operations Center (EOC). On March 17, 2020, PCHD restricted access to the building, however staff are still working to provide services to the residents of Pike and surrounding counties. Continued services include: Home Health, emergency dental services, Women Infant Children (WIC) services via curbside pick-up, limited Family Planning services, limited family case management services, communicable disease reporting and monitoring, limited immunization services, vital records, and environmental health services.

PCHD's internal incident command team meets daily. Public health response partners include Pike County's Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Illini Hospital, and local healthcare providers. As part of Pike County's response to the pandemic, Josh Martin, Director of the Pike County Emergency Management Agency, has partially activated the Pike County Emergency Operation Center as well.

PCHD has provided guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to schools; funeral homes; correctional and detention facilities; hotels; long-term care facilities; fitness centers; Pike County offices; and provided our community partners with guidance for large businesses. PCHD's Environmental Health department is assisting restaurants and bars as well as fielding complaints.

The Health Department has received personal protective equipment (PPE) from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) and are allocating supplies.

PCHD is beginning to see COVID-19 lab testing results on Pike County residents. As of today, Monday March 30, 2020, all results have been negative. There are no lab confirmed positive test results in Pike County, Illinois. We do expect to see positive test results in the coming days and weeks.

We encourage the residents of Pike County to take social distancing directives seriously, remain vigilant, and do your part to help contain the COVID-19 pandemic.

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