



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 06/02/2020

**Laclede County Health Department Announces
Eighth Laboratory Confirmed Positive COVID-19 Case**

LACLEDE COUNTY, MO – The Laclede County Health Department is announcing notification of an additional positive case of COVID-19. This brings our overall total to eight (8) cases to date; five (5) currently being monitored, and three (3) recovered. This newest case is experiencing mild symptoms of the illness, and is a close household contact of a previously reported Laclede County case. Our agency will not be releasing personal information, to protect the individuals' identity. We are working with this individual to ensure they are following Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (MoDHSS) and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) guidelines regarding quarantine/isolation.

A case investigation has been completed, identifying close personal and/or employment contacts. Those close contacts have been instructed to quarantine for the required timeframe, monitor for symptoms of COVID-19, and/or receive testing. This is being done to assist in the containment of the virus spread in our community. No other public exposure has been made, that was not previously reported with other cases.

Laclede County Health Department Administrator, Charla Baker states, "Our first cases here in the county were asymptomatic (no symptoms), but we are now seeing individuals with the classic symptoms of this illness. We continue to urge our county residents to remain cautious in their public activity, monitor closely for symptoms, and talk with their healthcare provider about any concerns." Symptoms of COVID-19 illness may include: fever, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste of smell.

Protection for yourself and others include: proper/frequent handwashing, cleaning frequently used surfaces, staying at home when you are sick, avoiding contact with people who are sick, coughing/sneezing into tissues, wearing a mask when in public, not gathering in large groups, and maintaining a six (6) foot distance between yourself and another person.

The Laclede County Health Department has, and will continue to diligently monitor the COVID-19 situation as it continues to evolve. Our continued goal is the safety and protection of our public.