



SEK Multi-County Health Departments

Allen, Anderson, Bourbon, and Woodson County, Kansas

PRESS RELEASE: NOVEL CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19

March 16, 2020

Our offices currently are and have been monitoring the outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). At this time there are **NO** confirmed cases reported in Allen, Anderson, Bourbon, or Woodson County. The SEK Multi-County Health Departments have been preparing for outbreaks and will continue working closely with local, state and federal partners to monitor, respond and inform the public of any potential threat.

On 3/15/2020 Governor Laura Kelly announced her recommendation to close all public schools for the week of 3/16/2020-3/20/2020.

It is our Public Health Officer's recommendation that all businesses that are able to close, starting Tuesday morning (3/17/2020-3/22/2020), should do so. This includes, but is not limited to, schools, bars, factories as well as churches and other non-essential meetings/gatherings. If your workplace can isolate your workers and still conduct operations, please do that, instead of closing. Food service establishments are encouraged to practice social distancing/isolation and if necessary to use these establishments, community patrons should utilize drive-up windows or take out, for this time period.

The Public Health Officer is recommending that essential businesses, such as gas stations and grocery stores remain open at this time. If you are able to stay home from work, the Public Health Officer recommends you do so. Everyone, especially school aged children, should limit contact with others and use their best judgement.

SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath

DO NOT go to a Clinic, Hospital, ER, or Health Department without calling prior to arrival

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO COVID-19 OR HAVE RETURNED FROM AN AREA WITH KNOWN CASES:

- Remain at home
- Call your local clinic/family physician's office for questions regarding testing or your County Health Department.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS OR ARE IN RESPIRATORY DISTRESS:

- Call your local clinic/family physician's office OR 911, where you will receive further instructions.

Tips:

- Stay away from people who are ill
- If you have a compromised immune system or are considered a vulnerable population avoid face to face time and practice social distancing
- Stay home if sick
- Practice personal hygiene habits including handwashing, covering your cough, and avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth
- For more information you may call the SEK Multi-County Health Department: Allen County: (620)365-2191 Monday-Thursday 7:00am-5:30pm; Anderson County: (785)448-6559 Monday-Thursday 7:00am-5:30pm; Bourbon: (620)223-4464 Monday-Thursday 7:00am-5:30pm ; Woodson County: (620)625-2484 Monday-Thursday 8:00am-5:00pm
- You may also visit the COVID-19 Resource Center at :
<http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus/index.htm>