Community Partner Update
COVID-19
Issued 4-3-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Linn County Status:</th>
<th>Current State of Iowa Status:</th>
<th>Current National Status:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Cases: 118</td>
<td># of Cases: 699</td>
<td># of Cases: 270,473</td>
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<tr>
<td># of Deaths: 4</td>
<td># of Deaths: 11</td>
<td># of Deaths: 6,889</td>
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Key Messages

- COVID-19 is circulating in Linn County. It should be assumed more people are infected than have been laboratory diagnosed, as some people will have mild or no symptoms. Every person in Linn County has a responsibility to take all of these measures seriously to prevent overwhelming the healthcare system.
  - Isolation recommendations for well Iowans with potential COVID-19 exposure Iowans should stay at home and isolate themselves from other people and animals in the home in the following situations. Isolation should be in place for 14 days after the last exposure.
    - Traveled outside of Iowa for business or vacation in the last 14 days.
    - Taken a cruise anywhere in the world in the last 14 days.
    - Live with someone who has symptoms of COVID-19 or has tested positive for COVID-19.
  - Isolation recommendations for Iowans ill with fever or respiratory symptoms (like cough or difficulty breathing) - Most mildly ill residents do not need to go to their healthcare provider or be tested to confirm they have COVID-19. Sick residents must stay home and isolate themselves from others in their house. If you think you may need healthcare, call first. Your provider can assess whether you need to be seen in the office or if you can recover at home. Stay home and isolate from others in the house until you have ALL of the following:
    - You have had no fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use of fever reducing medications)
    - Other symptoms have improved for at least 72 hours (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved continually over three days)
    - At least 7 days have passed since your first symptoms appeared.
• If you think you may need healthcare, call first. Your provider can assess whether you need to be seen in the office or if you can recover at home. Also, there may be options for you to talk to a medical provider from home using technology.
• Practice the 3 Cs - Cover your cough. Clean your hands. Contain yourself at home when sick.
• Everyone must practice social distancing by maintaining a 6 foot distance between yourself and other people, and avoid gatherings of more than 10 people.
• Employers are strongly encouraged to have staff work from home when possible.

**Significant Issues/Concerns:**

• COVID-19 case numbers continue to rise in Linn County.
• Vulnerable populations such as long-term care facility residents have been impacted with COVID-19.
• EMS and many healthcare providers have indicated PPE supplies are inadequate. Limited supplies have been received with additional supplies are on backorder.
• Fraudulent activity reported locally related to COVID-19.
  o Linn County Public Health (LCPH) has been notified by a resident that an individual claiming to be a public health employee attempted to gain access inside their home. The person told the resident they needed to come inside to make sure proper “COVID cleaning procedures" were followed. This individual was not a LCPH employee. The resident did not allow the person into the home and law enforcement was notified. The individual was later identified by law enforcement. LCPH wants to stress to the public that no employee from public health will be coming to any home in such a manner, and residents are encouraged to call law enforcement if any such incident would occur.
  o Rumor Control Information
    ▪ Federal Trade Commission
    ▪ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
    ▪ Federal Emergency Management Agency

**Sector Specific Updates**

**Legal Aid**
• Iowa Legal Aid in partnership with the Iowa Bar Association and Polk County Legal Volunteers have launched a new legal hotline: 1-800-332-0419. This is a free service for anyone in the State of Iowa. There are no income restrictions to use this service. No one will be turned away.
• Iowa Legal Aid – 2020 Coronavirus Outbreak: What you need to know

**Behavioral Health**

- Dial 2-1-1 or 800-244-7431 with general questions about COVID-19. Visit [211Iowa.org](https://211Iowa.org) or text your ZIP code to 898211. Help navigators are available any time of day, and trained to assist individuals in connecting to local services. Interpretation services support more than 150 languages.
- [Foundation 2’s Crisis Line](https://www.foundation2.org/crisis-line) is available at 319-362-2174. Anyone may call this number to request support when feeling anxious or depressed, or have feelings that don’t seem to make sense. For individuals who would like to speak with someone face-to-face, mobile crisis counselors are available via tele-support by calling the crisis line.
- People may text COVID to 741741 to receive mental health support via text from the [National Crisis Text Line](https://www.crisistextline.com).
- The Iowa Warm Line is available at 1-844-775-WARM (9276) for those who are not in crisis, but feel lonely and would like to speak with someone.
- East Central Region Mental Health and Disability Services [https://ecriowa.org/](https://ecriowa.org/)
- [National Suicide Prevention Hotline](https://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org): 1-800-273-8255
- Stay connected to friends and family with social media.
  - Access free online training to help you learn how to use various social media platforms [here](https://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org).
- Coping with stress and anxiety resources:
  - [Addressing Anxiety about COVID-19](https://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org)
  - [Psychologists’ Advice for Newly Remote Workers](https://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org)
  - How Leaders can Maximize Trust and Minimize Stress during COVID-19
  - [Coronavirus: Mental Health Coping Strategies](https://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org)
- Substance use resources:
  - Mutual Aid Recovery Resources [https://docs.google.com/document/u/0/d/1H7rw0FgaZ2_VeugtPn028niePDTXkoza0j0u1Gx5ICc/mobilebasic](https://docs.google.com/document/u/0/d/1H7rw0FgaZ2_VeugtPn028niePDTXkoza0j0u1Gx5ICc/mobilebasic)
  - COVID-19: Potential Implications for Individuals with Substance Use Disorders
  - COVID-19 Resources for Addiction Professionals: National Association for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC)

**Volunteer**

- Linn Area Partners Active in Disaster (LAP AID)
Organization retains a list of volunteer opportunities available for those willing to help our community during COVID-19. Click Here to view opportunities and sign up to volunteer! Please note: Once you sign up, the organization you signed up with will contact you with more information. Additional information about Linn Area Partners Active in Disaster visit www.linndisasterinfo.com/

Food Nutrition Resources

- LAP AID has compiled a list of meal sites and food distribution points.
  - [https://www.linndisasterinfo.com/meal-sites](https://www.linndisasterinfo.com/meal-sites)
- Iowa Department of Human Services
  - DHS Takes Multiple Steps to Ensure Food Security, Including New Online Options Through Amazon and Walmart
- HACAP Food Reservoir
  - [https://www.hacap.org/](https://www.hacap.org/)
- Heritage Area Agency on Aging
  - [http://heritageaaa.org/article/encore-caf%C3%A9-offering-frozen-meal-pickup](http://heritageaaa.org/article/encore-caf%C3%A9-offering-frozen-meal-pickup)
- Horizons
- Green Square Meals
  - [http://www.greensquaremeals.org/](http://www.greensquaremeals.org/)
- School District Meal Sites
  - [https://www.gwaea.org/covid-19](https://www.gwaea.org/covid-19)
- Women Infants and Children (WIC)

Healthcare and Emergency Medical Services

- Hospitals and EMS have representatives in Linn County’s Unified Command.
- On 3/30/2020 LCPH initiated a daily staffing, supply and illness survey for long-term care facilities in Linn County.
- On 3/30/2020 the Iowa Department of Public Health created a Regional Medical Coordination Center (RMCC) for a 14 county service area. The RMCC has a regional supply and staffing vantage point.
- In partnership with Linn County Emergency Management, LCPH issues a PPE survey weekly with providers asked to forecast PPE needs for seven days. EMA and public health work together to distribute limited supplies received from the state entities and local businesses to healthcare providers.
**Businesses & Other Organizations**

- FEMA Public Assistance program is a potential funding source that became available through the presidential declaration. Some nonprofit programs are eligible for assistance. FEMA uses the terminology “private non-profit”.
  - To be an eligible non-profit FEMA asks for documentation of current ruling letter from IRS granting tax exemption, bylaws or incorporation documents that outline your mission, copy of full insurance policy to avoid duplication of benefits.
  - Service you are providing has to be related to the safety of the public.
  - FEMA divides eligible type of service the nonprofit provides into two categories:
    - Critical services (i.e. education, (can be religiously affiliated), utilities, medical facilities, emergency services)
    - Non-critical (essentially social services provided by the nonprofits). Examples include: Alcohol and drug treatment, Rehabilitation, Assisted living, certain childcare/daycare services, Homeless shelters, Faith based, Libraries
  - Typically does not allow services more athletic in nature or political
  - Non-profits are encouraged to apply. FEMA will review and determine eligibility.
  - Applicants Briefing Video [www.youtube.com/watch?v=pey9mBvl600](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pey9mBvl600).
  - Email Rick Biondi for questions: [Richard.biondi@iowa.gov](mailto:Richard.biondi@iowa.gov)

- On 4-2-20, Gov. Reynolds signed a new proclamation continuing the State Public Health Emergency Declaration. This shall expire on April 30th, 2020.
  - Bars, restaurants (other than carryout and delivery), fitness centers, swimming pools, salons, medical spas, barbershops, tattoo establishments, tanning facilities, massage therapy establishments, theaters, casino and gaming facilities, senior citizen centers, adult day care facilities, bookstores, clothing stores, shoe stores, jewelry stores, luggage stores, cosmetic, beauty or perfume stores, florists, furniture and home furnishing stores are closed until April 30, 2020.

- Resources for Organizations and Businesses:
  - **Businesses and Organizations**
    - Disinfecting Your Facility if Someone is Sick
    - FAQ for Businesses
  - **Essential Services Personnel**
  - **Food Establishments**
  - **Childcare**

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**Information Resources**

**General**

Updated 4/3/2020
Joint Information Center (JIC)
A virtual Joint Information Center (JIC) staffed by Public Information Officers, or PIOs, from responding organizations was activated on March 16, 2020. The JIC has daily meetings to share and coordinate messages related to COVID-19, including press conference content, joint news releases, and messaging campaigns.

Press Conferences
Currently Linn County partner organizations are holding press conferences Mondays and Thursdays at 3:30 pm unless more frequently is warranted due to changing events.

Live feed of the press conference is posted on Linn County Public Health Facebook. https://www.facebook.com/LCPublicHealth/

Requests to speak at scheduled press conferences should be submitted to the JIC Manager at Linn County Public Health, Jo Bridgewater (jo.bridgewater@linncounty.org). Requests will be reviewed by the JIC/PIO team to ensure an efficient, coordinated message. Speakers should include in the request their key talking points. The JIC requests speakers share information that is urgent, breaking or different from other press conference speakers, and be the most qualified person to address this topic. If a person has information to share, but does not want to speak, the information can be shared on their behalf. They are asked to keep remarks to 3-5 minutes to fit within the goal total press conference time of 20-30 minutes.

Relevant Websites (for targeted guidance, fact sheets, infographics, etc.)
- LCPH Webpage: www.LinnCounty.org/COVID-19
- WHO Webpage: https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus

Telephone Contacts
- General Public Information hotline: 2-1-1 Iowa
- LCPH 24/7 contact/Officer on call: 319-892-6050
• IDPH 24/7 contact/Officer on Call: 800-362-2736

**Press Releases**
- Iowa Department of Public Health: [https://idph.iowa.gov/News](https://idph.iowa.gov/News)