Community Partner Update
COVID-19
Issued 4-17-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Linn County Status:</th>
<th>Current State of Iowa Status:</th>
<th>Current National Status:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Cases: 329</td>
<td># of Cases: 2,332</td>
<td># of Cases: 679,374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Deaths: 24</td>
<td># of Deaths: 64</td>
<td># of Deaths: 34,180</td>
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Past and future versions of this report can be found on the Linn County Public Health COVID-19 web page under Community Partner Update and will no longer be emailed each Friday.

Key Messages

- It is normal to experience feelings of isolation, anxiety and uncertainty in this abnormal situation. Prioritizing your mental health and staying connected is more important than ever. If you need support for you or your family in this very difficult time you can call the Foundation 2 Crisis Line at 319-362-2174 or the Your Life Iowa line at 855-581-8111. For more information and resources, visit The Gazette’s coronavirus resource page for residents. Additionally, this can be a very difficult time for those dealing with addiction. Addiction treatment providers are available to help.

- Linn County Public Health has been proactively reaching out to employers to provide guidance and reduce the spread of disease within the workplace. We have also been receiving complaints of businesses not complying with the governor’s orders, and we are referring callers to the Iowa Occupational Safety and Health Administration for compliance enforcement. The number for individuals concerned with workplace conditions is 515-725-5621.

- “CDC recommends wearing a cloth face covering in public settings where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g. grocery stores and pharmacies) especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.” Linn County is experiencing significant community-based transmission. Visit CDC’s Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Cloth Face Covers webpage for directions on how to wear coverings and instructions for sew and no sew mask options.
**Significant Issues & Updates:**

**Governor Reynolds’ Office**
- **COVID-19 in Iowa** website shared by Governor Reynolds this week. The page provides information, maps, dashboards, and resources about the coronavirus response in local areas.
- **4/16/2020 Proclamation**
  Effective at 11:59 p.m. 4/16/2020 -in all Region 6 counties - The Governor has ordered the following:
  - All gatherings for social, community, recreational, sporting, or leisure activities cease through April 30th.
  - You may gather only with the members of your immediate household
  - This 2-week time frame covers 1 incubation period of the virus and is intended to reduce the risk of further exposing yourself or others.

The affected Counties: Allamakee, Benton, Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette, Grundy, Howard, Jones, Linn, Winneshiek

Limited exceptions will be made for
  - Churches, Spiritual, Religious, Weddings, and Funerals which will continue to be restricted to 10 people
  - For individuals caring for family members outside of their immediate household.

- **Schools**
  - Governor Reynolds closed schools through the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

**Long-Term Care Outbreaks**
- Long-term care outbreaks are listed on the COVID-19 in Iowa website. The two Linn County facilities experiencing outbreaks are:
  - Heritage Specialty Care continues to experience an outbreak of COVID-19.
  - Linn Manor Care Center in Marion is also experiencing an outbreak.

**Regional Medical Coordination Center (RMCC)**
- Governor Reynolds has referenced the RMCC structure in her press conferences.
- RMCC was established to support multi-agency coordination of medical resources and critical information sharing.
- RMCC staff provides situational awareness, information sharing, and medical resources availability/status within the service area.
- Linn County is in Service Area /Region 6 (map below). LCPH has received a few questions asking which counties were in our RMCC area. While Johnson County is in
Service Area/Region 5, we work with Johnson County (and other counties) on some projects.

**Approved Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19**

- [EPA List of Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2)]

**Behavioral Health**

- [Tanager Place](#) is offering virtual support groups for caregivers (includes parents) and high school students.
- [Four Oaks](#) provides mental health services to children and adults to “empower children and families to achieve stability, self-sufficiency and permanency.
- Abbe Center is offering a [free Mental Health Coaching session](#) to individuals that could benefit from tips on caring for their mental health during this trying time.

**Business**

- [IDPH Guidance for Iowa B Experiencing COVID-19 Outbreak among Employees](#)
- Corridor Business Journal Webinar: [Corridor Economic Update](#)
  - [Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance - Business Resources for COVID-19](#)
  - [Paycheck Protection Program](#)
  - [Economic Injury Disaster Loans & Emergency Grants](#)
  - [Webinar: Understanding the Families First Program](#)
  - Department of Labor’s Wage and Hour Division [Families First Coronavirus Response Act: Employer Paid Leave Requirements](#)
  - Department of Labor’s Wage and Hour Division Families First Coronavirus Response Act [Questions and Answers](#)
- [Update: Guidance on Iowa’s Unemployment Insurance Extension Under CARES Act](#)

**Communications**

- [Linn County Public Health Virtual Town Hall](#)
  LCPH has launched a virtual town hall series to discuss topics of community interest related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The virtual town halls are held on Fridays at 12 pm.
The first virtual town hall held on April 10th focused on communicable disease control and community measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The second virtual town hall was held on April 17, 2020 focused on what individuals can do to improve their mental health and what resources are available.

The topic of the April 24 virtual town call will be Businesses and COVID-19.

Click here to view past recordings and to sign up to receive notifications for the weekly discussions.

- **ImOn Communications Expanded free public Wi-Fi**
  On 2/14/2020 ImOn Communications announced they expanded free public Wi-Fi coverage to cover Green Square Park, the Downtown Public Library, and the Ladd Library off of Williams Blvd. Other ImOn Free Wi-Fi Locations

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** Answering 20 Questions about COVID-19

**Energy Assistance**


**Food Access**

- **Federal Emergency Management Association: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Purchase and Distribution of Food Eligible for Public Assistance** dated April 12, 2020 FEMA Policy FP 104-010-03
- The **Pantry Pickup Project** delivers pantry food orders to those who cannot afford to purchase groceries, do not have a vehicle, cannot walk to the pantry or are required to remain at home, are not eligible for Meals on Wheels, and are able to access a door a bring pantry items into their home. To receive this service call 319-214-3290 or submit a request via [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe3skjE0HrWCc3FsZFqCoY_njXDpdZgPDvfBIY5LkTB0We6w/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe3skjE0HrWCc3FsZFqCoY_njXDpdZgPDvfBIY5LkTB0We6w/viewform)

**Multi-lingual Resources**

- **COVID-19 Multi-lingual Hotline Launched**: Call 1-877-558-2609 Monday through Friday from 8:30 am -5:30 pm; native language voicemail is offered 24 hours, seven days a week. Call and select the language from the menu to be connected to an operator and interpreter or to leave a message. This hotline was launched by Refugee Alliance of Central Iowa and Lutheran Services in Iowa in partnership with 2-1-1, the Iowa Department of Public Health and Polk County Health Department.

**Older Adults**

- **Heritage Area Agency on Aging** has launched a new website and has compiled a list of helpful resources for older adults and adults with chronic health conditions to learn more about COVID-19.
• **Older Adults Access 2 Independence Survey** is for people with disabilities, their families, and providers on ways to best support the independence of people with disabilities in our community.

**Personal Finance**

• **Treasury, IRS launch new tool to help non-filers register for Economic Impact Payments**: IR-20-69 (English), IR-20-69SP (Espanol), and IR-2020-69 (Chinese (Traditional)). This tool is for clients who may not have filed taxes.

• **IRS Get My Payment Tool**: Provides people with the status and type of their payment, including the date their payment is scheduled to be deposited into the bank account or mailed to them.

• **IRS.gov Coronavirus Tax Relief and Economic Impact Payments**

**Volunteer Needs**

• **Volunteer Requests for Fabric Masks**:
  o **HACAP** is seeking fabric masks for childcare providers
  o **Tanager Place** is seeking fabric masks for staff
  o **NAMI Linn County** is seeking fabric masks for clients

• **Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center** request for blood and platelet donations.

• **The Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank** (EIDB) is open to community members and EIDB members struggling with diaper need. Visit the website for more details. Please visit the **United Way Of East Central Iowa Volunteer Now EIDB page** to donate.

**Sector Information**

**Behavioral Health**

• **Waypoint** offers domestic violence victim services, homeless & housing services, and child care programs. 24 hour resource & support line: 319-363-2093 or 1-800-208-0388.

• **Iowa Domestic Violence Hotline**: 1-800-770-1650 or Text: IOWAHELP to 20121

• **Iowa DHS Child Abuse Hotline**: 1-800-362-2178

• **The Gazette Resident Resource page**: “The City of Cedar Rapids along with The Gazette and area service providers have launched a new online database of resident resources to help citizens navigate support resources available during the COVID-19 health crisis.

• Dial 2-1-1 or 800-244-7431 with general questions about COVID-19. Visit **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** 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.
- 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
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 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.
- Coping with stress and anxiety resources:
  - Addressing Anxiety about COVID-19
  - Psychologists’ Advice for Newly Remote Workers
  - How Leaders can Maximize Trust and Minimize Stress during COVID-19
  - Coronavirus: Mental Health Coping Strategies
- Substance use resources:
  - Area Substance Abuse Council (ASAC) Substance use resources: Call 319-390-4611 for help and treatment options.
  - Mutual Aid Recovery Resources
  - 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)

**Businesses & Other Organizations**

- IDPH Resources for Organizations and Businesses:
  - Businesses and Organizations
    - Disinfecting Your Facility if Someone is Sick
  - Essential Services Personnel
  - Food Establishments
  - COVID-19 Outbreak Guidance for Businesses 04/08/2020
  - IDPH COVID-19 Guidance – Business and Organizations

- Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance - Business Resources for COVID-19
- The Greater Cedar Rapids Foundation (GCRF) has established the COVID-19 Disaster Response Fund. The GCRF is accepting donations “to provide rapid response to needs in our communities and address human service needs of our most vulnerable populations.” Use the link to donate.
- The Gazette Coronavirus Business Resources
This a database providing business owners and administrative staff the ability to search and review programs and assistance available for businesses.

- **Kirkwood Corporate Training Webinars - Workplace Resiliency in Unprecedented Times**
  To register, call 319-398-5623 or email corporatetraining@kirkwood.edu.
  - April 22, Part I: Mental Health and Empathetic Listening
  - April 29, Part II: Strategies to Maintain Mental Health while Working Remotely
  - May 6, Part III: Helping Employees with Anxiety and Depression Stay Engaged
  - May 13, Part IV: Reducing Stigma and Building Resilience During COVID-19

- **Iowa Workforce Development (IWD)**
  - IWD is accepting applications for the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020, which provides unemployment benefits for the self-employed, independent contractors, nonprofit employees, gig economy workers, those who have exhausted other unemployment insurance benefits, and those who may not have sufficient work history to qualify for a regular state claim.

- Faith-based organizations
  - CDC Interim Guidance
  - “Drive-in” Worship

**Child Care**

- **Childcare Resources in Response to COVID-19**
- **Child Care for Essential Personnel**

  Essential personnel workforce can receive information about available child care by contacting:
  - Iowa Child Care Resource & Referral at 1-855-244-5301
  - DHS Workforce Child Care Map

  Note: The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) encourages parents who are telecommuting to keep their children home with them.

**Food Nutrition Resources**

- **LAP AID** list of meal sites and food distribution points.
- **HACAP Food Reservoir Mobile Food Pantry Schedule - April**
- **Iowa Department of Human Services**
  - DHS Takes Multiple Steps to Ensure Food Security, Including New Online Options Through Amazon and Walmart
- **HACAP Food Reservoir**
- **Heritage Area Agency on Aging**
- **Horizons**
- **Green Square Meals**
- **School District Meal Sites**
- **Women Infants and Children (WIC)**
Iowa 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

Language

- LAP AID Multi-lingual Resources - LAP AID list of COVID-19 resources translated in multiple languages.
- Additional resources:
  - Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services
  - EMBARC Iowa
  - Catherine McAuley Center

Law

- Mitigation practices for law enforcement

Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities

- LifeLong Links: 1-866-468-7887
- Long Term Care Facility 04/06/20 webinar

Personal Protective Equipment

- PPE Shortage Order 4/9/2020
- PPE Guidance at Long Term Care Facilities
- Guidance for face mask/respirator extended use and re-use
- Guidance to convert other devices to ventilators
- Use of Homemade Gowns for Patient Care when Commercially-produced Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is Unavailable
- CDC Cloth Face Coverings: Questions and Answers
- CDC Personal Protective Equipment: Questions and Answers

Volunteer

- Linn Area Partners Active in Disaster (LAP AID)
  - Volunteer Needs and Sign Up
Please note: Once you sign up, the organization you signed up with will contact you with more information.

**Information Resources**

**General**
- [IDPH Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)](https://www.idph.gov)
- [Linn County COVID-19 Mapping Resource](https://www.linncountyiowa.org/home/coronavirus)
- [IDPH 2019 Novel Coronavirus Fact Sheet](https://www.idph.gov)
- [CDC Document on Mitigation Strategies](https://www.cdc.gov)
- [COVID-19 Communication Resources](https://www.cdc.gov)
- [COVID-19 Information in Multiple Languages](https://www.idph.gov)
  - [IDPH – Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Multiple Languages](https://www.idph.gov)
  - [Coronavirus (COVID-19) YouTube Videos – The Refugee Response](https://www.youtube.com)
  - [Refugee Alliance of Central Iowa](https://www.refugeealliance.org)
  - [LAP AID Multi-lingual Resources](https://www.linncounty.org)
- Information about Self-Isolation [Click here](https://www.idph.gov) and [Click here](https://www.youtube.com)

**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**
Linn County partner organizations hold press conferences on Mondays and Thursdays at 3:30 pm.

Live feed of the press conference is posted on [Linn County Public Health’s Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) page and on [Linn County’s YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com).

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.
Recorded press conferences are posted on Linn County Public Health’s Facebook page, on the Linn County YouTube Channel, and on Linn County’s website.

Press Releases
- Linn County Public Health Press Releases
- Iowa Department of Public Health Press Releases

Relevant Websites (for targeted guidance, fact sheets, infographics, etc.)
- Linn County Public Health (LCPH)
- Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
  - Travel Information
- World Health Organization (WHO)

Rumor Control Information
- Federal Trade Commission
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Federal Emergency Management Agency

Social Media
- Linn County Public Health Facebook
- Linn County Public Health Twitter
- Linn County YouTube
- Iowa Department of Public Health Facebook
- Iowa Department of Public Health Twitter
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Facebook
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Twitter
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention YouTube

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