



**County of Moore
Health Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 Outbreak Identified at St. Joseph of the Pines

The Moore County Health Department has been notified of confirmed positive COVID-19 test results for two staff members of St. Joseph of the Pines (490 Central Drive, Southern Pines). One of the positive results came from independent testing of a staff member on August 11th after they became symptomatic, the other was generated by bi-weekly COVID-19 testing conducted on August 19th which was mandated by the recently enacted Secretarial Order #2. A copy of the Order can be found here: <https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/Secretarial-Order-2-Mandatory-Testing-for-Staff-in-Nursing-Homes.pdf>.

St. Joseph of the Pines administrators are currently working to schedule testing for any potentially affected residents or staff associated with the COVID-19 positive staff members.

With the addition of St. Joseph of the Pines, Moore County’s cumulative total of COVID-19 outbreaks in long-term care is now eight since the pandemic began. In long-term care or congregate living settings, a COVID-19 outbreak is defined as two or more laboratory-confirmed cases. Of the eight total outbreaks Moore County has experienced, three have been declared concluded (Pinehurst Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center, Fox Hollow, and Seven Lakes Assisted Living and Memory Care) as there was no evidence of continued transmission following a twenty-eight day period.

You can find more detailed information regarding ongoing COVID-19 outbreaks in long-term care facilities in Moore and other NC Counties by accessing a report published by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) at <https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/dashboard/Weekly-COVID19-Ongoing-Outbreaks.pdf>.

In total, there have been 1,142 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Moore County to date. To protect privacy, no further information about the individuals who have tested positive will be shared by the Health Department.

Moore County’s Coronavirus (COVID-19) Dashboard can be found here:
<https://moorecounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/4c11e5bf79b64a6e9c8377d5129cc97c>

“To Protect and Promote Health through Prevention and Control of Disease and Injury.”
<http://www.moorecountync.gov/health/>

**Environmental Health
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For more information about coronavirus and Moore County’s response, please visit www.moorecountync.gov/health, find us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter (@mocohealth).

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