



**County of Moore
Health Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 18th, 2020

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Moore County Resident Tests Positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19)

A Moore County resident has tested positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19), the County's first since the outbreak began. The Moore County Health Department was notified of a positive test March 18, 2020, by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. To protect privacy, no further information about this individual will be shared by the Health Department.

"With increased testing, more cases are expected," said Moore County Health Director Robert Wittmann. "We would advise all Moore County residents to continue to follow all recommended control measures to protect themselves and others from the virus".

Moore County Health Department staff are monitoring the individual who tested positive and will follow up with anyone who is identified as a close contact. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines "close contact" as being within six feet for 10 minutes or more.

The Moore County Health Department continues to urge all residents to take measures to reduce the spread of coronavirus:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Health officials also encourage everyone to implement social distancing measures to reduce frequency of contact, like maintaining six feet of distance and avoiding large crowds. This is important for everyone and especially those at high

"To Protect and Promote Health through Prevention and Control of Disease and Injury."

<http://www.moorecountync.gov/health/>

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risk of severe illness, specifically anyone over 65 years old or anyone who has an underlying health condition like heart disease, lung disease, diabetes or a weakened immune system. Further, individuals in this high-risk category should stay home to the greatest extent possible in order to avoid exposure.

For more information about coronavirus and Moore County's response, please visit www.moorecountync.gov/health.

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