MEDIA ADVISORY
For Immediate Release 3-26-20, 12:00 PM
Jennifer Hiestand, Public Information Officer
(740) 819-0570, jenniferh@zmchd.org

Muskingum County resident tests positive for COVID-19

The Muskingum County Joint Unified Command Center is reporting a Muskingum County resident has tested positive for COVID-19. The positive test was recorded in a 48-year-old man who lives in Muskingum County and is now hospitalized. This individual recently traveled out of state. No additional personal information about the Muskingum County case will be released in order to protect personal privacy following HIPAA regulations.

Zanesville-Muskingum County Health Department (ZMCHD) staff is following the guidelines regarding any infectious disease. They are regularly communicating with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) as well as other public health partners in the county to work as efficiently as possible to handle each case and their close contacts. ZMCHD will work to identify and notify any close contacts who may have been exposed to positive COVID-19 cases.

If you are sick, stay at home and isolate yourself from other people until you have experienced no symptoms for at least 72 hours. However, you still need to follow the precautions listed below. ZMCHD does not provide testing, sick care or treatment for COVID-19. Call your health care provider only if symptoms are severe, and if an office visit is necessary, call prior to arriving at your health care provider’s office so they can take steps to protect other patients.

What can I do?

- Practice social distancing by avoiding crowds and keeping at least 6 feet away from other people as much as possible.
- Stay home if you are sick. If someone in your household is diagnosed with COVID-19, everyone should quarantine themselves for 14 days.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your mouth, nose or eyes. Don’t share food or drinks.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with your arm or a tissue.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Ask your employer about the possibility of working from home.
Testing of the general public is not available. Current testing procedures through the Ohio Department of Health for COVID-19 includes those who are most severely ill and professionals who are critical to providing care and service to those who are ill.

Please be aware this is a rapidly evolving situation. For Muskingum County COVID-19 Updates follow: Muskingum County EMA & LEPC on Facebook; Health Department website http://www.zmchd.org/coronavirus-disease; communications by the Muskingum County Center for Seniors. Updates are posted daily at 4:30 p.m. To sign up for Muskingum County Citizen Alerts, visit https://www.muskingumcountyoh.gov/

For general questions about COVID-19, visit www.coronavirus.ohio.gov or call the Ohio Department Health COVID-19 hotline at 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634) between 9:00 and 8:00 p.m. 7 days a week.

If you think you are experiencing symptoms, of COVID-19:
• Call your doctor
• If you do not have a doctor or your doctor is not available, call the Genesis On-demand COVID-19 Virtual Screening Telemedicine Clinic at (740) 297-8610.
• Patient registration will be required, co-pays will be waived.
• Testing will be ordered if appropriate.

Genesis On-demand COVID-19 Virtual Screening Telemedicine Clinic Hours:
• Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
• Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
• Hours may adjust according to need.
• For questions after these hours, you may call the Genesis Nurseline at (740) 455-4949.