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Three Rivers Public Health Department Announces Mass Testing Results

Three Rivers Public Health Department (3RPHD) worked with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and Nebraska's National Guard to conduct a mass testing event on Tuesday, April 21, 2020. The event was held at Fremont Middle School in Fremont. 3RPHD worked in collaboration with local partners (hospitals, food production facilities, long-term care facilities, and emergency management, etc.) to identify potential candidates for testing. Additionally, close contacts of previously confirmed cases were also invited for testing. In total, 94 individuals were tested.

From the testing event, 25 new confirmed cases were identified:

- Ten pediatric cases in Dodge County
- Eleven adults in Dodge County
- One pediatric case in Saunders County
- One adult in Saunders County
- Two adults in Douglas County

Of these cases 90% of those identified as positive were close contacts of previously lab-confirmed cases. This reinforces the importance of self-quarantine for close contacts of confirmed cases. It is essential that individual's social distance while at home and stay home if they are sick.

As a reminder patient information is considered protected health information under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and will not be provided to protect the patient's privacy. Contact tracing has been completed on all positive individuals and those identified to have a risk of exposure have been asked to self-quarantine.

The additional lab-confirmed cases bring the 3RPHD district's total to 71 COVID-19 cases:

Dodge County: 40 cases

Saunders County: 9 cases

Washington County: 22 cases

This week, Governor Ricketts announced the #TestNebraskaChallenge. All Nebraskan's are encouraged to go to TestNebraska.com and take a quick, five-minute assessment. This assessment will help identify where testing needs to occur in the state. Testing for the program will begin in about ten days and will help better identify cases and who needs to be isolated. For more information about COVID-19 please visit www.threeriverspublichealth.org, <http://dhhs.ne.gov/coronavirus> or call United Way's 2-1-1 Resource Hotline.

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