



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Defiance County General Health District Reports Second Case of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

MARCH 21, 2020: Defiance County General Health District (DCGHD) is reporting a second positive test result for the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). The individual was originally thought to be a Williams County resident. After further investigation by the Williams County Health Department, it has been determined that the individual is actually a resident of Defiance County.

“Williams County Health Department notified us this morning of an individual who tested positive for COVID-19. At this time the case investigation and contact tracing will be done by the Defiance County Health Department,” noted Stacy Lucas, Director of Nursing with the Defiance County Health Department. “We know this is a scary, difficult time for our community. Our communicable disease staff is following the guidelines they always do with any reportable disease. We are working with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), as well as our healthcare partners, to work as efficiently as possible to handle each case and their close contacts.”

“The second case in Defiance County, further indicates community spread in our area,” Jamie Gerken, Health Commissioner adds. “It is important to listen to the advice of Governor Mike DeWine and our Ohio Department of Health Director, Dr. Amy Acton. Stay home if you are able, the more social distancing we can do, the better equipped we are to slow down the spread of this virus.”

To prevent the spread of disease, Defiance County Health Department encourages everyone to follow these effective practices:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer only if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.
- Practice social distancing by avoiding gatherings and remaining 6ft from others.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stay home if you are sick.

This is a rapidly evolving situation. Information is being shared as it becomes available on the following websites: coronavirus.ohio.gov or www.defiancecohealth.org

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