



Stevens County Health Department

NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 27, 2020

Contact: Paula M. Rowden, RN, MPH
Stevens County Health Officer
620-544-7177

First case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) identified in Stevens County

Hugoton – Stevens County Health Department is announcing the first case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Stevens County.

The case involves a male who traveled to an area outside of Stevens County with a high incidence of COVID-19 transmission. The Stevens County Health Department is working to identify all close contacts of this individual and those who were exposed are being contacted. We have provided instruction to these case contacts to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19, to include fever and respiratory symptoms. No further information about the patient will be released.

KDHE has released guidelines (http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus/COVID-19_Resource_Center.htm) for quarantine and isolation of travelers who visited locations in the United States where large numbers of people have contracted the disease. These guidelines are available on our Facebook page.

Please adhere to the following recommendations:

- Avoid non-essential trips and stay home to the extent you can.
- Follow all recommendations regarding self-quarantine
- Avoid large gatherings (groups of more than 10)
- If you do need to go out in public, ensure you maintain six feet distance from other people.

The Stevens County Health Department has worked closely on these decisions with numerous community partners, including Stevens County Government, The City of Hugoton, Stevens County Emergency Management, Stevens County Hospital, and leadership of our local public-school districts.

Stevens County residents can stay informed by visiting The Stevens County Health Department's Facebook Page, www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus or <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>.

For general information, contact the KDHE phone bank at 1-866-534-3463 (1-866-KDHEINF) or email COVID-19@ks.gov. You may also contact the Stevens County Health Department information line at (620) 544-7177 or email prowden@stevenscoks.org.