Hendricks County Health Department

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Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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Regarding: 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Hendricks County Leaders,

There are many questions and concerns regarding Coronavirus and its associated illness, COVID-19. While it is important to prepare for public health emergencies, it is also important to rely upon information from trusted and reliable sources.

The Hendricks County Commissioners and the Hendricks County Health Department support a Preparedness Coordinator with funding provided by the Indiana State Department of Health to monitor public health emergencies, plan and organize for response, and collaborate with the community and other professionals to protect the Hendricks County community.

The Hendricks County Health Department Preparedness Coordinator works in conjunction with the Hendricks County Emergency Management and leads the Hendricks County Medical Reserve Corps to prepare for community-wide public health emergencies. In addition, the Preparedness Coordinator is already working with school leaders, and is available to discuss plans with other county organizations.

For the most recent and reliable information related to Coronavirus or COVID-19, Hendricks County community leaders and residents are encouraged to review the following educational resources.

- Indiana State Department of Health:
  https://www.in.gov/isdh/28470.htm
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
  https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

In addition, the following CDC prevention recommendations are simple steps we can all take to protect ourselves and others from the spread of respiratory illness such as influenza (flu) or COVID-19:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
- CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
- Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).

Please contact the Hendricks County Preparedness Coordinator, Jeff Corder, at jcorder@co.hendricks.in.us or 317-745-9214 with specific questions or for more information.