



DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 4, 2020

DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - DAILY LOCAL UPDATE

(Douglas County, Ore.) BIG news for Douglas County residents today! Douglas County Board of Commissioners announced that thanks to our residents, and the continued diligence of our Public Health Officer, Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, Douglas Public Health Network and the Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, **WE DID IT!** Our Commissioners received notice earlier today that Douglas County has successfully completed Phase One of the Governor's Reopening Plan, and our request letter (sent on Friday, May 29, 2020) to enter Phase Two was approved by the Governor. [\(Click here to read a copy of the approval letter\).](#)

Douglas County will be among the first of Oregon's counties to enter the Governor's Phase Two process that looks to provide further relaxing of restrictions on group gatherings, as well as additional opportunities for businesses to reopen and expand offerings. As mentioned in the Governor's press conference on Wednesday, June 3, 2020, there will be expanded openings for recreational activities, including public pools, museums, movie theaters and summer youth camps. Additionally, some collegiate athletes will be able to resume sports activities, on a limited basis. All of these will of course be subject to new guidelines and restrictions as directed by the Governor and the Oregon Health Authority. For more information about the Governor's Phase Two Guidelines, [click here](#). Douglas County will begin Phase Two of the Governor's Reopening Plan on Friday, June 5, 2020, exactly 21 days after we entered Phase One. [Click here](#) for a video presentation from Gina Zejdlik, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Governor, for counties and members of the public with questions about Phase Two.

"Phase One of Reopening in Douglas County has gone very well. We are fortunate to have the support of our local communities; that we have the right people in the right places to guide us through this pandemic; and we have put ourselves in the position to advance to Phase Two. Even though we are moving forward, this will not be a quick or easy road for our local businesses or residents. We will all need to work together to help our neighbors, friends, families and our livelihoods rebound from this crisis. Please continue to support your local communities by making purchases, dining out, staying home if you are sick and signing up to volunteer when and where you can," remarked Commissioner Chris Boice.

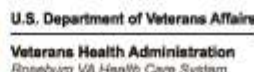
Douglas County's Phase Two request letter was submitted on Friday, May 29, 2020 by Board Chair, Commissioner Chris Boice, who worked in conjunction with our Public Health Official, Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer to quickly complete and submit our Phase Two advancement letter to the Governor.

"We are entering Phase Two because of our vigorous response to COVID-19. We have done all the hard work locally to prepare and respond to this pandemic. We do anticipate more cases because the threat of this virus is not gone, but we have increased our epidemiology capability to track cases and support quarantine and isolation to reduce the spread. All indicators are showing we have a low burden of COVID disease here locally. But, we still encourage people to socially distance, stay home if you're sick and wear masks in public to reduce the spread if you're asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic. I believe we are prepared to enter this next phase," said Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, our Douglas County Public Health Official.

Douglas County continues to be recognized as leader in Oregon for our COVID-19 response for our drive-through testing, coordinated planning, prevention messaging and hospital/care facility capacity preparedness. *"I am very proud of our County and the hard work that has gone into our COVID-19 response efforts,"* commented Commissioner Tom Kress. *"The advancement to Phase Two is a reward for all our efforts!"*

As the delegated liaison Commissioner to the COVID-19 crisis response, Commissioner Tim Freeman has directed the efforts of the Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team. *"I do not think I can say this enough; we are incredibly blessed to have the amazingly talented team of professionals in our County that we do. They have successfully led the charge for our COVID-19 response. The work done by Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer, our Douglas County Public Health Officer, Douglas Public Health Network and the Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team has been remarkable. The proof is in the numbers, our consistent messaging and the unprecedented cooperation of our medical and business communities,"* stated Commissioner Tim Freeman.

Douglas County COVID-19 Test Results: It is Thursday, June 4, 2020, and as of 12:00 pm today, there is **ONE** new case of COVID-19 in Douglas County. The total number of positive cases in Douglas County is 29. Testing continues, as DPHN has been holding 2-3 clinics a week and hospitals, urgent cares and clinics continue to test. Twenty-nine people have tested positive in the county and twenty-five of those twenty-nine have recovered. DPHN defines recovery as an end to all symptoms after a positive test for COVID-19. DPHN continues their epidemiologic investigations, identifying individuals who may have had close contact with individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19, advising and supporting quarantine. The majority of the individuals who have tested positive earlier have now recovered. The first positive COVID-19 case in Douglas County was announced on March 8, 2020. Thanks to the great work that Douglas County has done social distancing and staying home, we've had 29 cases in 88 days.



Here are the current numbers for Douglas County:

New Cases as of 12:00 pm June 4, 2020	Total Confirmed Cases	Total Recovered Cases (of those that tested positive)	Total COVID-19 Deaths	Total Currently Hospitalized (of those that tested positive)	Total Negative Test Result	Total Presumptive Cases
1	29	25	0	2	2927	0

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has expanded their reporting for COVID-19 case management and will now include presumptive COVID-19 cases. DPHN will also be reporting presumptive cases and will use the OHA’s definition of presumptive as having had close contact with a known, confirmed COVID-19 case, showing symptoms and not yet having a positive nasal swab/PCR test for COVID-19.

Getting Tested & Testing Clinics

The next drive-through testing clinic will be Friday, June 5, 2020, in Roseburg. As a reminder, if you are having symptoms of COVID-19 including cough, fever, shortness of breath, muscle aches and pains, diarrhea, sore throat or decreased sense of smell and taste, talk to your health care provider about being tested for COVID-19. Patients without a Primary Care Provider, that are looking for a COVID-19 test should contact the Sutherlin Aviva Health Clinic at (541) 459-3788.

The first drive-through testing site was piloted in the county on March 17, 2020, there have been 576 people tested in the drive-through clinics alone, additional testing continues in hospitals, urgent cares and clinics simultaneously. The drive-through clinics are led by DPHN, in conjunction with partner agencies including; Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Douglas County Sheriff’s Office, Douglas County Public Works, local volunteers and local health professionals.

Oregon COVID-19 Case Update

Oregon Health Authority reports new cases once a day on its website at www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus. The Oregon Health Authority is also releasing the daily situation status report, which is produced jointly with Oregon Office of Emergency Management. It details the overall picture of the COVID-19 outbreak within the state and the response across government agencies. [Click Here to Read More About the Oregon Daily Situation Status Report.](#)

Oregon and Local Hospitals Urge Patients Not to Delay Care

Clinicians around the State say facilities are safe and urge patients not to delay care. The Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems (OAHHS) launched its “Your Care Continues” campaign yesterday to encourage Oregonians to address health needs by accessing care at their local hospitals and clinics. [\(Copy of press release here\)](#). The effort will use the voices of Oregon’s clinicians and other health care professionals to reassure the public that hospitals and clinics have added additional safety precautions related to COVIC-19 for patients and staff, and that avoiding needed procedures and exams can bring serious consequences. According to a recent Kaiser Family Foundation survey, 48 percent of respondents said they’ve skipped or postponed medical care because of COVID-19. *“People are delaying checkups and vital care because they fear hospitals are either unsafe or overwhelmed. Neither of those things are true here in Oregon,”* said Becky Hultberg, President and CEO. *“We want Oregonians to continue to embrace a culture of wellness and prevention, and that means maintaining health through continued care. Small issues when ignored can become life-threatening. Oregon’s hospitals and clinics are safe, open, and ready to take care of you, with extra safety precautions.”*

Mercy Medical Center: In the face of so much shifting news about COVID-19, our own health and the health of our loved ones is important. Which is why it you shouldn’t put off important and needed health care screenings, testing, and visits. During an outbreak, just as during other times, skipping care can be risky and can lead to complications. We know you probably have questions about getting care right now: Is it safe to go to the emergency room, hospital or physician offices? The short answer is, yes it is safe to get care at Mercy. As always, we continue to put our patients first. Our commitment to your wellbeing includes new practices to help protect you so you can continue to get safe, top-quality care. Here are just some of our COVID-19 safety and security measures: We are following expert guidance, masking any symptomatic patients, using a designated respiratory care waiting area in the ER, extra cleaning and disinfection protocols, limiting visitors, and we screening patients, staff, physicians and required companions. So don’t delay needed care, we’re ready for you.

Lower Umpqua Hospital: “Lower Umpqua Hospital and our District's clinics are open and seeing patients,” stated Ryan Fowler, Chief Administrative Officer. We have reorganized schedules and waiting rooms to ensure physical distancing. Our providers are seeing patients in person and offering video visits when appropriate. At Dunes Family Health Care, our primary care clinic, we are offering Telemedicine appointments through Umpqua Connect. Please call our office at 541-271-2163 if you need to see a health care provider and have concerns about your appointment. Our goal is to keep you safe and healthy.

Urgent Need for Blood Donations Continues

Summer is historically a season of fewer blood drives and lower donor turnout due to school breaks and travel. Although this summer looks different, the dip in blood inventory remains as hospitals resume surgical procedures and blood drive cancellations continue as businesses and community organizations remain closed. The American Red Cross has an urgent need for blood donations to prevent another blood shortage. Donors are needed to make and keep scheduled appointments to help meet the current need. If you are healthy, feeling well and eligible to give blood or platelets, you are urged to make an appointment to donate as soon as possible. Donate your blood and save a life. Appointments are required, visit www.redcrossblood.org or call (800) 733-2767 to schedule your appointment today.

Stay Informed with the Accurate Information

Your Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Douglas County Public Health Officer, Dr. Robert Dannenhoffer and the Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team have been working hard to cooperatively provide accurate and timely information to Douglas County residents since March 8, 2020.

Local COVID-19 Hotline: If you have questions about resources available, call the COVID-19 hotline, staffed by local volunteers at (541) 464-6550 from 8:00 am-5:00 pm, 7 days a week.

Stay up to date on COVID-19 in Douglas County on the [DPHN website](#). Find additional information on state or federal COVID-19 response from the following websites: [Douglas County Government](#), [Oregon Health Authority](#), [Centers for Disease Control](#), and by calling or logging onto [211Info](#).

Got Questions about the Governor’s Phased Reopening Plans?

If you have questions or need more information about the Governor’s Phased Reopening Plans [found online here](#) or Sector Specific Guidelines, you will need to go online, call, email or contact the [Governor’s Office](#), the [Oregon Health Authority \(OHA\)](#) or the [Oregon State Office](#) responsible for regulating your business or the business that you wish to visit.

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