



DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 13, 2020

DOUGLAS COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM - DAILY LOCAL UPDATE

(Douglas County, Ore.) As the Douglas County Board of Commissioners and our Douglas County Public Health Officer, Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer anxiously await a response from the Governor's office about our Phase One Reopening Application, we would like to remind citizens that while here in Douglas County it might seem like all the restrictions and closures related to the COVID-19 pandemic were all overkill measures, the truth is they were not. The number one objective here in Douglas County for our Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team was to minimize loss of life. A goal we continue to make our highest priority. We know that all the safety measures, closures and plans put into place have helped to save thousands of lives. We have an amazing health care system in the United States, and yet, there are locations in the US that have been hit hard by the virus. We were very fortunate that we took action quickly and put preventive measures in place. It only takes a moment to look at the statistics in other parts of the world where serious outbreaks and mortality rates have caused unprecedented devastation in both developed and underdeveloped nations like Italy, Germany and China to see what this virus would have caused if we did not have the health care system we do, or had not taken swift action to protect our citizens. As the old adage goes, "It's better to be safe, than sorry."

Douglas County COVID-19 Test Results

It is Wednesday, May 13, 2020 and as of 12:00 pm today, there **NO** new cases of COVID-19 in Douglas County. There has only been one positive case reported in the last 23 days, and that case was reported as recovered before their test results were returned. Testing continues, as DPHN has been holding 2-3 clinics a week and hospitals, urgent cares and clinics continue to test. Twenty-four people have tested positive in the county and twenty-two of those twenty-four have recovered. DPHN defines recovery as an end to all symptoms after a positive test for COVID-19.

Here are the current numbers for Douglas County:

New Cases as of 12:00 pm May 13, 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
0	24*	22	0	1	1571	0

*confirmed cases are people who have tested positive with a PCR/nasal swab test

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. 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.

Get Tested & Testing Clinics

The next drive through clinic led by DPHN is scheduled for Friday, May 15, 2020. 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. The first drive thru testing site was piloted in the county on March 17, 2020, there have been 480 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. [Read more here about the daily situation status report.](#)



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Roseburg VA Health Care System



American Red Cross
Southwest Oregon Chapter

Mask Fit Clinic for Health Care Providers

Guidelines from the CDC have recently changed for dental settings and in an effort to support local dental offices, Douglas Public Health Network held its first fit clinic on Saturday May 9, 2020. The CDC guidelines for dental settings now require N95 respirator/mask to protect against COVID-19 transmission, those respirators have not been routinely used in these settings in the past.

“The new CDC guidelines have introduced PPE that our dental offices have not previously used. These N95’s come in an assortment of sizes and manufacturers and we know that one size does not fit all. We coordinated our first fit clinic to support our local dental providers in this shift and to practically ensure that the mask is working as intended, to prevent contamination leaking into the mask in high exposure risk situations like dental procedures,” commented Christin Rutledge, DPHN Program Manager.

With many dental providers not having used this type of PPE before, DPHN saw the need to hold a fit clinic. On Saturday May 9, 75 dental providers and employees were fit tested for N95 masks. DPHN will continue to offer fit testing for anyone in the dental, medical, or other profession on Wednesdays from 12-6 by appointment only. To request an appointment, email ppe@douglaspublichealthnetwork.org.

Mercy Medical Center Receives Rapid-Testing Machine for COVID-19 Tests

State health officials announced they have distributed 12 additional Abbott ID NOW rapid-testing machines to health care providers around Oregon, including Mercy Medical Center in Roseburg. The machines process COVID-19 tests in about 15 minutes.

“These machines will significantly improve the capacity for testing in these communities by allowing greater access to local testing and ensuring that the test specimens do not have to be shipped to distant labs for processing,” Oregon Health Authority (OHA) officials said in a press release.

OHA received a federal shipment of the machines last month, but only sent out three due to a lack of test supplies – one of those three machines went to Curry General Hospital in Curry County. The state now has enough supplies to send out the other 12. Bay Area Hospital in Coos County is also receiving one.

In determining which health care providers would be given a machine, OHA prioritized areas of the state with a high population of older adults and other at-risk groups; a limited number of first-responders; areas with limited or no COVID-19 testing; and areas with few courier services for the state public health lab and commercial labs. The Abbot ID NOW machines are in use across the country, including at the White House.

“This is an important resource for our community, and we appreciate the support from OHA. Timely results will enable our health care team to make appropriate and more efficient treatment decisions and allow for further conservation of PPE,” said Kathleen Nickel, Mercy’s Director of Communications.

The Governor noted in the press release that capability for rapid testing is crucial in order to monitor the prevalence of COVID-19 in various communities as Oregon reopens. Rapid testing also allows for COVID-19 patients to be quickly identified, treated and isolated to prevent further spread.

Staying Safe as Oregon Begins the Process to Slowly Lifting the Executive Orders

When the day comes and the Governor starts to slowly lift restrictions on activities and businesses, it’s important to remember that health and hygiene advice that slows the spread of COVID-19 still applies. Actions such as frequent handwashing, staying six feet apart, and wearing face coverings will continue to be a part of our daily lives. Just a reminder to protect the important people in your life and how to stay safe as we continue to navigate the next steps of our future with COVID-19 response together. [Click here to see a copy of the OHA stay safe reopen graphic.](#)

Aviva Health Glide Clinic Location Reopens - Patients are Required to Call Prior to Visit

Aviva Health announced yesterday that effective immediately, Aviva Health’s Glide location is again open for regular business hours after a 50-day closure due to the COVID-19 emergency. The clinic operates Monday through Thursday, from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. As a precautionary measure related to COVID-19, walk-in patients are not yet allowed. Anyone wishing to be seen must call the clinic in advance at (541) 496-3504 to make an appointment. All patients showing up for an appointment are encouraged to wear a mask and staff continues to adhere to all PPE recommendations of local, state and federal health officials.

“This is a careful balance,” says Aviva Health CEO KC Bolton. *“We want to make sure we are providing our patients the care they need while ensuring their safety and the safety of our staff and larger community.”*

While its medical clinics in Myrtle Creek, Sutherlin, North County and Roseburg never closed, Aviva Health’s majority of patient visits at this juncture are virtual.

“We continue to monitor the situation in Douglas County and are paying close attention to the governor’s decisions around a phased reopening of the economy,” Bolton says. *“We, like so many Oregonians, are eager to return to some semblance of normal, but our top priority remains and always will be the health and safety of our patients, staff and community. For that reason, we’ll continue to follow the recommendations of our local public health authority and state and federal health officials.”*

Tosha Agee, Aviva Health’s Glide Clinic manager, says staff is eager to once again deliver care to the community.

“Our clinic staff is excited to return to serving the people of Glide,” she says. “It’s our mission to provide access to high-quality, affordable medical care to people who wouldn’t otherwise have it, and this reopening is a great representation of that.”

To schedule an appointment at the Glide Clinic, please call (541) 496-3504. Community members who have questions about or are concerned they have coronavirus should call the DPHN Coronavirus Hotline at (541) 464-6550. For more information, please visit www.aviva.health/coronavirus.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

In this challenging time, it's more important than ever to find ways to care for our own mental health and reach out to family members and friends to make sure they are OK. Compass Behavioral Health is Douglas County's Community Mental Health Program (CMHP), and has an active [Facebook page](#) with tips and resources. “*Compass is highlighting #Tools2Thrive – what individuals can do daily to prioritize their mental health, build resiliency in the face of trauma and obstacles, support those who are struggling, and work towards a path of recovery,*” the organization said in a Facebook post.

The post linked to the [Mental Health America](#) website, which contains a host of tips and information on stress, staying positive, navigating times of change, and when and how to seek professional help. Compass accepts walk-ins during regular working hours, and can be reached at (541) 440-3532, or through its 24/7 crisis line at (800) 866-9780. You can visit Compass' [website](#) to learn more.

There is also the Douglas County Healthy Transitions program, which focuses on strengthening the mental health of local youths ages 16-25. Visit the Healthy Transitions [Facebook page](#) to learn more. A recent post linked to a document titled [“7 Tips to Get You Through the Coronavirus.”](#) Healthy Transitions has a monthlong campaign using the hashtag [#onedayatatime](#) to raise awareness about the mental health needs of youths and young adults.

May 30 is the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) “National Day of Hope.” To mark this day, NAMI holds annual fundraising walks. This year, the walks will be virtual; participants will walk where they choose and share their participation on social media. You can walk a 5K through your neighborhood, do loops around your backyard or walk indoors on a treadmill. For more information, visit NAMI’s [website](#) or NAMI Oregon’s [Facebook page](#).

Give Blood and Help Your Community

Blood supplies remain seriously low and leaving home to donate blood is considered a lifesaving need. If you are healthy and feeling well, then giving blood is a safe and great way to help your community. The Red Cross has implemented strict sanitizing and social distancing policies to ensure you’re safe while making a lifesaving donation. Anyone interested in donating must make an appointment by visiting www.redcrossblood.org or calling (800) 733-2767.

Wednesday, May 13	9:30 am – 2:30 pm	Reedsport High School, 2260 Longwood Drive, Reedsport
Thursday, May 14	12:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Roseburg Blood Donation Ctr, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd, Roseburg
Friday, May 15	9:00 am - 2:30 pm	Roseburg Blood Donation Ctr, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd, Roseburg
Friday, May 15	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	YMCA of Douglas County, 1151 Stewart Parkway, Roseburg
Monday, May 18	1:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Roseburg Blood Donation Ctr, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd, Roseburg
Monday, May 18	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Elks Lodge # 1943, 106 South Main Street, Myrtle Creek
Tuesday, May 19	12:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Roseburg Blood Donation Ctr, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd, Roseburg
Wednesday, May 20	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Holiday Inn Express, 375 West Harvard Blvd, Roseburg
Friday, May 22	9:00 am - 2:30 pm	Roseburg Blood Donation Ctr, 1176 NW Garden Valley Blvd, Roseburg

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. **If you have questions about resources available, call the COVID-19 hotline, staffed by local volunteers at (541) 464-6550 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, 7 days a week.** Stay up to date on COVID-19 in Douglas County on the DPHN website at www.douglaspublichealthnetwork.org. 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](#).

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Contact [Tamara Howell](#), Public Information Officer, Douglas County COVID-19 Response Team, (541) 670-2804 cell/(541) 957-4896 tjhowell@co.douglas.or.us
Contact [Vanessa Becker](#), Public Information Officer, Douglas Public Health Network, (541) 817-6552 cell / (541) 440-3571 vanessa@douglaspublichealthnetwork.org