



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Butler County**  
General Health District

# Novel Coronavirus (COVID -19)

## Daily Update

Date/Time of Issue: March 24<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 @5:30 PM

**Executive Summary:** The Butler County General Health District (BCGHD) is working with the City of Hamilton Health Department (CHHD), the City of Middletown Health Department (CMHD), and the Butler County Emergency Management Agency (BCEMA) in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

### MAJOR UPDATES AND ACTIONS

#### 1. Contact Tracing:

BCGHD's Nursing and Epidemiology Department continues to trace contacts of individuals with confirmed cases of COVID-19. When an individual receives a positive test result, our staff works with the individual to develop a timeline of potential community exposures. People and places are identified based on the movement of the individual that received a positive result. Tracing among close contacts of affected individuals is an important strategy in containing disease clusters and reducing community spread.

#### 2. Support of Individuals in Quarantine:

Once positive cases or their contacts are identified, they are placed in quarantine or isolation. Each day, BCGHD contacts each family or individual. BCGHD assess each person's symptoms, food and supply needs, and discusses any changes in illness severity. When needs are identified, public health develops a plan to meet those needs. Food and supplies are delivered to the individual(s) in quarantine and isolation. Questions regarding symptoms and disease containment are relayed to an RN and/or an epidemiologist who in turn follows-up with the individual.

Our staff is being assisted by two volunteer nurses from Lakota High School were trained and started assisting in daily calls to individuals in quarantine. This helps our staff to get rest and some time away from the work that is going on 7 days/week.

#### 3. Coordination with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH):

BCGHD continues to participate in ODH Local Health Department conference calls, twice weekly. Guidance, updates and response plans are discussed, including updates from the ODH Director, Dr. Amy Acton.

#### 4. Response Plans for Vulnerable Populations:

In addition to the BCGHD staff member appointed to manage responses for vulnerable populations (e.g. people with functional and access needs, people experiencing homelessness, etc.), Miami University will partner with all three health departments in Butler County to finalize plans and processes of quarantine locations.

BCGHD Nursing Director co-led a conference call with Butler County long-term care facilities. Discussion topics included PPE, response plans and readiness, and communication coordination.

#### 5. Communication and Reporting:

BCGHD continues to post COVID-19 messages to guide the public. Topics include ODH Directors Orders, PPE conservation, practices for people that are experiencing symptoms and mental health management.

BCGHD Health Commissioner, Jennifer Bailer, participated in a Facebook live event with the Butler County Sheriff. BCGHD discussed the importance of "flattening the curve" or reducing the number of people that get sick in a short amount of time to avoid overwhelming the hospitals. Video links: <https://bit.ly/2wrOgKh>

BCGHD will release a COVID-19 Epidemiology Report on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. All reports will be posted and available by 2:30 PM on the BCGHD website: <http://health.bcoho.us/>

## 6. Press Conference :

Butler County Commissioners, BCGHD, EMA and the Council on Aging are assessing and discussing the need for a weekly press conference. Details about location, time and agenda are TBD. Details will be released to media outlets and posted on BCGHD website.

### DATA POINTS (3.13.20 – 3.23.20)

18	# Cumulative Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Butler County
0	# COVID-19 Deaths in Butler County
7	# Investigations into institutions not complying with Orders for Closure
3	# Official Letters of Enforcement to institutions not complying with Orders for Closure
34	# Food boxes delivered to quarantined individuals/families
2,196	# Calls received from the public

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Ohio Website on Coronavirus](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control Website on Coronavirus](#)
- [Coronavirus COVID-19 Global Cases by Johns Hopkins CSSE](#)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Butler County General Health District: 513-863-1770**
- **Butler County Emergency Management Information Hotline: 513- 785-5800**
- **Ohio Department of Health COVID-19 Call Center: 1-833-427-5634**

### BC EOC DONATION, VOLUNTEER & ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT DATABASE

Please use this survey if you are interested in donating, volunteering, or if you are in need of assistance. Provide your information and they will add your information to the database. This list will be used to meet the needs of our community by connecting those in need with those who can help. They will have partners connect you if they can be of service. Thank you for helping make Butler County a safer place to live, work, and play.

**Link to survey:** <https://arcg.is/DL4yu>



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