

CARTERET COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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For Immediate Release

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Carteret County COVID-19 Two Additional Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed Press Release #19

Beaufort, NC – On Saturday, March 21, two additional cases of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) were identified in Carteret County for a total of four cases confirmed. Both individuals are in isolation and recovering at home at this time. Carteret County Health Department Communicable Disease staff is currently working to conduct contact tracing to make sure everyone who came into close contact with these individuals are quarantined. Close contact is anyone who was within six feet of the individual for 10 minutes or more. To protect patient privacy, no further information will be released.

“Carteret County medical providers have been diligently submitting specimens for testing for patients meeting testing criteria. With increased testing capabilities, we expect to find more cases in Carteret County. Knowing we have cases in our community, it is extremely important for all of us to do our part to practice social distancing to reduce the spread of illness,” states Stephanie Cannon, Carteret County Health Director.

For information about new or future COVID-19 confirmed cases, the County will update case counts each morning at 9 am on the County website at www.carteretcountync.gov and on the public information recording line at 252-726-7177. The County will continue to issue press releases regarding Carteret County’s operational changes, response, and safety information regarding COVID-19. The County will also issue a press release if the Carteret County Health Department determines there is a threat to the public’s health and safety.

Preventive measures include frequently washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; staying home when you are sick; covering your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and discarding the tissue immediately; and, avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

If you think you may have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and respiratory symptoms, such as cough or shortness of breath, call your healthcare provider for medical advice first. If you do not have a healthcare provider, contact the Carteret County Health Department at 252-728-8550. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, please call “911.”

People who are mildly ill with COVID-19 are able to recover at home, according to the CDC. But for others, including older adults and those who have underlying health issues, such as heart disease, lung disease, or diabetes, or those with a weakened immune system, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia. Symptoms may appear two to 14 days after exposure.

For more information on COVID-19, please visit: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-response-north-carolina> or <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>.

Citizens can also call the Carteret County Citizens Call Center at 252-726-7060, Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm to speak with a County operator to answer their questions.

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Public Health Department — 3820-A Bridges Street • Morehead City, NC 28557
Main Office — Tel (252) 728-8550 / Fax (252) 222-7739
Environmental Health — Tel (252) 728-8499 / Fax (252) 222-7753
Animal Control — Tel (252) 728-8585 / Fax (252) 222-5823

