March 10, 2020

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Currently, there are six cases of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Harrison County has three cases, which have been confirmed to be directly linked to one another. Fayette now has two cases and Jefferson county remains at one. To date public health officials have monitored over 200 individuals, with only 34 requiring testing. None of these individuals reside within the Lincoln Trail District (Hardin, LaRue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, and Washington Counties). Local and state public health officials will continue to monitor and prepare to promptly respond to any potential cases should they occur.

In response to the two additional cases, Kentucky Governor Beshear and the Kentucky Department of Public Health has strongly recommended the following for adults over 60 and people who have severe chronic medical conditions like heart, lung or kidney disease.

• Limit or restrict all travel.
• Stay at home as much as possible to avoid crowds.
• Long-term care facilities should restrict visitors to those visiting end of life patients only. Visitors who are allowed to enter the facility should be screened for fever, respiratory symptoms, international travel, and contact with anyone who has COVID-19.
• Make sure you have access to several weeks of medications and supplies in case you need to stay home for prolonged periods of time.

The Governor has issued an Executive Order that allows pharmacies to dispense up to 30 days of non-controlled medication at a time.

As the situation continues to change individuals may be inclined to seek healthcare. The advice below provides guidance on knowing when you should visit and should not visit your health care provider:

Worried, but well
Do not go to a hospital, ER or doctor’s office. If you are worried-well, going to a hospital or doctor’s office just further overwhelms medical staff and adds to a higher concentration of people. If you are worried-well stay home.
Feeling ill, but otherwise would not have sought out medical care

If you have a fever or cough and, if it were not for COVID-19, you would not have otherwise sought care, do not seek care at an ER, hospital or doctor’s office. If you want advice, call the state hotline (1-800-722-5725) or your local health care provider.

If you are sick and feel you have an emergency
Call your doctor or seek medical care. The hospitals across the state stand ready to serve.

Lincoln Trail District Health Department is in constant contact with the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KYDPH) for any updates related to COVID-19. We are committed to working with and passing this information onto local providers, as well as the public. Please visit our agency web page at www.ltdhd.org for any health alerts, updated guidance documents, and links to additional information from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). You may also visit the Kentucky Department for Public Health’s website at kycovid.ky.gov. The public may also call the state call hotline at 1-800-722-5725.