

Morton County Health Department
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NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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First case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) identified in Morton County

The MORTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT is announcing the first case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Morton County.

This case involves a local female who recently traveled to an area outside of Morton County with a high incidence of COVID-19 transmission. The Morton County Health Department is working to identify all close contacts of the individual and those who may have been exposed are being contacted. We will be monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19 to include fever and respiratory symptoms. No further information about the patient will be released.

KDHE has released guidelines (http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus/COVID-19_Resource_Center.htm) for quarantine and isolation of travelers who visited locations in the United States where large numbers of people have contracted the disease. These guidelines are also posted on our Facebook page.

Please adhere to the following recommendations:

- Avoid non-essential trips and stay home to the extent you can.
- If you do need to go out in public, follow all recommendations regarding social distancing, ensuring you maintain a six foot distance from others and avoid large gatherings
- Practice good handwashing habits with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and stay home when you're sick unless you are seeking medical care, then please CALL your provider's facility before you go in, to discuss and help them plan the best way to address your needs

The Morton County Health Department has worked closely with numerous community partners, including Morton County Government, Morton County Emergency Management, Morton County Hospital, The City of Elkhart, and other state and local leaderships.

Morton County residents can stay informed by visiting the Morton County Health Department's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/MortonCountyHealthDepartment/>, <http://www.mtcoks.com/>, www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus or <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>.

For general information, contact the KDHE phone bank at 1-866-534-3463 (1-866-KDHEINF) or email COVID-19@ks.gov. You may also contact the Morton County Health Department 620-697-2612.

