



MEDIA RELEASE

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To: All Media
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For Immediate Release

“Public Health Officials Announce Second COVID-19 Death; New Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed; Total 71 Cases in LaSalle County”

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) was notified of the second novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related death in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individual, a female in her 80’s, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19.

“We are deeply saddened to hear of the additional loss of one of our LaSalle County residents to this illness. Our hearts go out to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of their loved one and we send our sincerest condolences,” LaSalle County Health Department Administrator Julie Kerestes said in a statement.

The department has also confirmed an additional two COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 71 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 60’s
- a female in her 70’s

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Eleven additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 41.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. Illinois is not projected to peak until mid-May so we expect to see additional cases in the coming weeks ahead. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department’s website at www.lasallecounty.org. For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov.

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