



For Immediate Release

July 17, 2020

CONTACT: Ellis County Health Department, (785) 628-9440

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Press Release: Case Updates for Ellis County

Active cases: 36

Recovered cases: 41

Total cases: 77

ECHD has been notified of eleven new positive cases since Wednesday, 7/15/2020. ECHD is following KDHE guidelines to identify any close contacts of the new positive cases. Contacts will be notified and directed to self-quarantine for 14 days. The positive cases are in isolation.

ECHD is saddened to announce that a member of our community has passed away. The male, in his 90s, tested positive for COVID-19 on July 5, 2020. He had significant pre-existing medical conditions leading to his passing. COVID-19 is believed to be a contributing factor in his death. ECHD extends its deepest condolences to his family in this difficult time.

Ellis County residents, especially the most vulnerable (those over 55 years old with pre-existing medical concerns), need to be exceptionally vigilant at this time. Fifty percent of our current active cases are in the population over 55 years old. This trend is alarming as this population accounts for 92.6% of the 299 statewide deaths and 62% of the 1300 hospitalizations. If you are in this population, have a loved one or care for someone in this population, please take extra precautions to protect and educate yourselves and them. As we interact and care for those in the vulnerable population attempt to limit close contact as much as possible and avoid indoor settings during contact. If you cannot appropriately social distance, both parties should wear a mask.

Residents and visitors of Ellis County need to remain diligent in **social distancing** as well as basic precautions like washing your hands, covering your cough and **staying home when you are ill**. ECHD encourages all Ellis County Residents to **avoid gatherings** and wear a mask if you cannot distance yourself. If you become symptomatic please contact your local physician. Continue to follow and understand guidance provided by the CDC, KDHE and ECHD. Make the individual choice to protect yourself and others around you.



Stay informed as information changes frequently. For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/COVID19 or www.kdheks.gov/. Call the KDHE phone bank at 1-866-534-3463 (1-866-KDHEINF) or ECHD at 628-9440.

