Kane County Health Department

Barbara Jeffers, MPH, Executive Director

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT

Essential Service #2. Protect people from health problems and health hazards

KCHD on the Front Lines Against COVID-19

The public knows that health care workers and first responders are on the front lines against COVID-19, but so are the public health workers at the Kane County Health Department. We are in direct contact with hospitals, first responders, municipalities, long-term care facilities and more. We work to distribute personal protective



equipment from the Illinois state stores to various agencies, arrange for housing for isolation and quarantine, track hours and expenses for possible Federal reimbursement and much, much more:

- In response to public interest, KCHD has launched a database dashboard about COVID-19 disease at KaneHealth.com. This dashboard tracks positive COVID-19 cases for Kane County and by community, as well as reported deaths for the county. The dashboard also breaks down positive cases by age, gender, confirmed cases by date of onset, and confirmed cases by municipality. The information updates daily by 5 p.m. In the 24 hours following the launch of the dashboard, the website recorded 8,300 engagements and the Facebook post reached more than 20,000 people.
- The Kane County Coroner's Office began providing weekly updates on COVID-19 deaths by municipality, gender and age. The information updates on their Facebook page each Monday.
- The Governor has asked the Illinois National Guard to provide additional force in the fight against COVID-19. The IDPH and IEMA (Illinois Emergency Management Agency) are the lead agencies. The Guard's primary mission is to keep hospitals open. They are collecting data from the emergency managers of hospitals to determine capacities and resource needs so that they can see where to best maximize state resources. The information gathered provides a single database that communicates what is current in the state and identifies trends and build-ups. There are two members of the Illinois National Guard in Kane County, Major Darrin Dunsworth, from Macomb and Master Sergeant David Mathis, from Pingree Grove.
- Over the past few weeks, KCHD has distributed personal protective equipment to over 70 organizations including hospitals, Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers, long-term care facilities, shelters, home health organizations and law enforcement.
- KCHD has created an Employee Symptom Checking Protocol for COVID-like Illness. It provides for daily monitoring and check-in, handling employee illness, guidance for return to work and return to work practices and work restrictions. These guidelines can be adapted by other employers that may want to consider using a symptoms checklist for those who are working in offices.

Ten essential services of Public Health

- 1. Monitor health status and understand health issues facing the community
- 2. Protect people from health problems and health hazards
- $\ensuremath{\mathsf{3.\,Give}}$ people the information they need to make healthy choices
- 4. Engage the community to identify and solve health problems
- 5. Develop public health policies and plans

- 6. Enforce public health laws and regulations
- 7. Help people receive health services
- 8. Maintain a competent public health workforce
- 9. Evaluate and improve programs and interventions
- 10. Contribute to and apply the evidence base of public health $% \left({{{\rm{D}}_{{\rm{D}}}}} \right)$

Link to Departmental Statistics: kanehealth.com/Pages/Public-Health-Reports.aspx



COVID-19 Social Media Messaging

Kane County Health Department staff have created a variety of social media infographics to relay important community health messages. A sampling is displayed below.

