



## **Kane County Health Department Encourages Residents to Support Local Restaurants and Bars with Take Out and Outdoor Dining**

**October 23, 2020** – The Kane County Health Department (KCHD) reminds residents that bars and restaurants are open for take-out, drive-through, delivery and outdoor dining, with restrictions. KCHD urges the public to show support for these businesses affected by the State COVID-19 resurgence mitigation rules.

“We understand the challenges the mitigation rules are putting on our food and beverage sector,” said KCHD executive director Barbara Jeffers.

IDPH added Kane County to its COVID-19 county watch list on Friday, October 16. Two of the metrics which triggered the warning level for Kane County include increases in the new case rate and number of deaths. Subsequently, on October 23, Region 8 (Kane and DuPage Counties) entered the Resurgence Mitigation restrictions due to the positivity rate exceeding 8% for three consecutive days. Region 8 will remain in the resurgence mitigation phase for 14 days, and if the positivity rate averages less than or equal to 6.5% over a 3-day period, the region will return to Phase 4 mitigation under the Restore Illinois Plan. If the positivity rate continues to increase beyond the 14 day period, there could be additional mitigation measures for Region 8.

“For the majority of our population, their risk increases based on the number of different people that they come in contact with,” said Jeffers. “These restrictions are in place to help reduce the spread of the virus. Social gatherings, including weddings, funerals, potlucks and even birthday parties, are limited to no more than 25 guests.”

Jeffers cautions that the department is seeing the spread of the virus among friends and family at personal gatherings, large and small. The upcoming holiday season will be especially problematic if the COVID-19 rates do not decrease. However, Jeffers is confident that the residents of Kane County have what it takes to get through this. She urges all residents to do their part in keeping our positivity rates low, which keeps us safe and will allow us to more quickly energize our economy.

“There is nothing easy or fair about any of this, but we must use the tools we have, and know that work, to reduce the spread of the virus,” said Jeffers. “Wear a mask, wash your hands, practice socially responsible distancing and keep your social circle small. Larger gatherings increase the risk of virus transmission.”

The department continues to encourage residents to contact them with concerns about businesses not following the guidelines by calling 630-208-3801 or [CovidConcerns@co.kane.il.us](mailto:CovidConcerns@co.kane.il.us). The Kane County Sheriff’s Office continues to work closely with the health department to investigate and follow up with complaints for COVID-19.

For more information about COVID-19, visit the KCHD website at [KaneHealth.com](http://KaneHealth.com)

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Contact:

Susan Stack 630-444-3098

[KaneHealth.com](http://KaneHealth.com)