



Kane County Health Department Response to First COVID-19 Death in County; County Board Extends Public Health Emergency Declaration

March 25, 2020 – The Kane County Health Department (KCHD) confirmed the first death in Kane County from COVID-19 disease. The City of Aurora reported the death of a 97-year old man who lived in Aurora.

“Our thoughts are with the family at this time,” said Kane County Health Department Executive Director Barb Jeffers. “We had hoped that this disease would spare our county. Our staff remains dedicated to providing resources and support for our health care workers and our community.”

In an emergency session Tuesday afternoon, the Kane County Board extended the Declaration of a Public Health Emergency beyond the temporary 7-day measure, insuring that KCHD can continue to obtain and allocate resources to the community. The resolution is attached.

KCHD understands there is a high demand for information. We want to provide as much information as possible, but our top priority is investigating all cases and protecting patient confidentiality. We are sharing as much information as we can as soon as we can.

If you think you have the symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, and difficulty breathing), please stay at home and CALL your doctor or health provider first to report a suspected illness. Your health care provider will order testing. **COVID-19 tests are NOT done at the Kane County Health Department.**

(more)

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As in all viral cases, you should wash your hands frequently, avoid interacting with people who are sick and make sure you are up to date on your immunizations.

For additional information and current updates on the COVID-19 situation, visit the KCHD website at KaneHealth.com or call the health department at 630-208-3801.

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Attachment

Contact: Susan Stack 630-444-3098

KaneHealth.com

STATE OF ILLINOIS

COUNTY OF KANE

RESOLUTION NO. 20 - 103

DECLARING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of Illinois declared a state of emergency in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic as of March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, The President of the United States declared the COVID-19 outbreak a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director of the County's Health Department and the Director of the County's Office of Emergency Management, the Chairman of the Kane County Board declared a local public health emergency, constituting a local disaster under Section 11 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/11, in connection with COVID-19, which declaration expires on March 25, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Kane County residents have tested positive for COVID-19, and given the potential impact on high-risk populations, it is imperative that all appropriate steps be taken to reduce the rate of transmission; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Illinois has issued further requirements for social distancing and elimination of certain community events in the state on March 12, 2020 and March 16, 2020, and has ordered closing of all pre-K through 12th grade schools on March 13, 2020, and has prohibited on-site consumption of food at restaurants and bars in Illinois on March 16, 2020; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, the circumstances surrounding COVID-19 constitute a public health emergency as defined under Section 4 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to make additional Kane County resources available to ensure that the effects of COVID-19 are mitigated and minimized and that residents and visitors in Kane County remain safe and secure; and

WHEREAS, while Kane County is presently responding to this situation, it is deemed necessary to activate the Kane County Emergency Operations Plan and Kane County Health Department Emergency Operations Plan and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance thereunder by proclaiming that a public health emergency, constituting a local emergency under the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, exists within Kane County, Illinois.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED pursuant to the Kane County Code and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/11, the Kane County Board hereby declares a local emergency and disaster as defined under Section 11 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/11 and under Section 4 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act in Kane County related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, and further affirms and extends, until further resolution by this Board, the Public Health Emergency Declaration issued by

the Kane County Board Chairman on March 18, 2020. The Executive Director of the Kane County Health Department and the Director of the Kane County Office of Emergency Management are hereby authorized and directed to coordinate the County's response to this public health emergency and proceed with all haste to bring said emergency to a rapid conclusion in the best interests of the residents of Kane County pursuant to the provisions of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, as amended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE KANE COUNTY BOARD, pursuant to Section 11 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/11, the County's and the Kane County Health Department's Emergency Operations Plans, are hereby activated, and the furnishing of aid and assistance thereunder is hereby authorized.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE KANE COUNTY BOARD, pursuant to Section 10(j) of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/10(j), the Director of the County's Office of Emergency Management and the Executive Director of the Kane County Health Department are hereby authorized, in light of the exigencies of the public health emergency, to enter into contracts and incur obligations on behalf of the County which are necessary to place the County in a position effectively to combat the public health emergency to protect the health and safety of persons, to protect property, and to provide emergency assistance to victims without regard to the procedures and formalities normally prescribed by law and County ordinance, excepting mandatory constitutional requirements, pertaining to the performance of public work, entering into contracts, the incurring of obligations, the employment of temporary workers, the rental of equipment, the purchase of supplies and materials, and the appropriation, expenditure, and disposition of public funds and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE KANE COUNTY BOARD, the Director of the County's Office of Emergency Management and the Executive Director of the Kane County Health Department are hereby authorized and directed to take all steps necessary to apply for emergency funding grants made available in connection with the COVID-19 public health emergency and disaster.

Passed by the Kane County Board on March 24, 2020.

John A. Cunningham
Clerk, County Board
Kane County, Illinois

Christopher J. Lauzen
Chairman, County Board
Kane County, Illinois

Vote:

20-03 COVID-19