Lake County  
General Health District

Situation Report  
#75

Incident COVID-19

Operational Period  
Dates: 9/30/2020 – 10/7/2020

Times: 0800-0800

Reporting Unit  
Planning/  
Public Information

Form 04/09  
ICS-209 Short/Modified

The following reports on activities for the period shown:

Current Situation
- Lake County Current Risk Alert Level: Level 2 Orange
- Cumulative daily count: cases – 1,711; hospitalizations – 180; deaths – 56 (current status. Definitive cause of death can take weeks to determine.)

Health District Updates
- A new Complaint Dashboard has been posted on www.lcghd.org. It contains any business that has had at least one complaint for COVID-19-related issues. Multiple complaints may be listed, if applicable. The direct link is: https://www.lcghd.org/2019-novel-coronavirus-ncov/covid-19-complaint-dashboard/. It is linked from a new button on the COVID page (see bottom left quadrant of buttons).

- LCGHD has received 2,101 complaints to date, with 20 complaints being received within the operational period. The majority of complaint calls received during the operational period involved individuals/businesses not wearing masks, social distancing, and miscellaneous complaints.
- LCGHD responded to a media request from WKYC Channel 3 regarding a school outbreak.
- LCGHD responded to a media request from The Lake County Tribune regarding enforcement.
- LCGHD operates the Lake County COVID-19 hotline (440-350-2188) and covid19@lcghd.org email inbox, and performs seven day per week contact tracing activities.
- SCAM ALERT: If you receive a call from the Health District asking you to shut down, please ask for the name of the individual, note the telephone number, and call 440-251-9798.

Our Mission: Working to prevent disease, promote health, and protect our community
Governor DeWine’s press conferences on October 1, 2020, and October 6, 2020, discussed the following:

- Ohio State University (OSU) conducted a COVID-19 prevalence study on behalf of Ohio Department of Health (ODH).
  - The purpose of the study was to 1) estimate active COVID-19, and to 2) estimate the prevalence of people who had COVID-19 in the past.
  - Two-hundred-forty census tracts were selected. Households were randomly sampled. Households received a postcard and a letter that they had been selected for the study. OSU visited people who did not opt out of the study. Households went through the process of informed consent. Individuals provided a blood sample to detect antibodies, and a nasopharyngeal swab to detect active disease. The study was conducted from July 9 through July 28.
  - The sample from the study found that 0.9% had active infection, while 1.5% had past infection.
  - Data from this study cannot give a precise number. The prevalence of adults in Ohio is relatively low. That means many more people are susceptible to infection.
  - 0.9% is equivalent to 80,000 Ohio adults. 1.5% is equivalent to 133,000 Ohio adults with evidence of past infection. These numbers cannot be extended to other time periods. The study would suggest that some hundreds of thousands of Ohioans have had COVID-19, while millions of Ohio are susceptible to it.
  - Antibodies of 50% of samples are present for two months. Very few individuals carry antibodies past three months.
  - The level of antibodies is measured, but measurement of the activity of antibodies to tell how well individuals are protected should be considered.
  - Reinfection is not commonly seen within the three month window.
  - Reinfection has been noted in scientific literature, but usually after much longer than three months.
  - The conclusion of the study: COVID-19 continues to surprise scientists. Predictions regarding short- or long-term immunity to disease should not be made. More information about the study will be available on www.coronavirus.ohio.gov on the dashboard overview.
  - According to the study, Ohio is among Midwest states with the lowest infection rates, having a similar rate as Indiana. West Virginia and Wisconsin were slightly lower. Ohio has lower infection rates than Pennsylvania and New York.

- In the past 24 hours:
  - 1,335 new COVID-19 cases
  - 16 new COVID-19 related deaths
  - 132 new COVID-19 hospitalizations
  - 36 new COVID-19 ICU admissions
- Ohio’s positivity rate is going back up, averaging more than 3%.
- If someone must travel to Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, South Dakota, or Wisconsin, whether for business or personal reasons, it is recommended that they self-quarantine for 14 days after they return to prevent the potential spread of the virus here in Ohio.
- Ten Ohio counties with the highest incidence of COVID-19 during the past two weeks (per 100,000 population):
  - Mercer (281.7)
  - Athens (277.1)
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- Ohio currently has 11 red counties on the Ohio Public Health Advisory System map, which is more than any point in September.
  - Newly red since last week: Clermont, Hamilton, Muskingum, and Richland (also on the Watch List, nearing purple).
  - Remaining at red since last week: Ashland, Butler, Mercer, Montgomery, Pike, Putnam, and Scioto.
- Lake County went from Level 1 Yellow to Level 2 orange.
- COVID-19 hospitalizations have begun to increase since the beginning of September.
- The average age of COVID-19 hospitalizations has increased.
  - As of September 27, approximately 78% of COVID-19 hospitalizations are among those individuals 60 years of age and older:
    - 0-19 years of age: 4%
    - 20 to 29 years of age: 3%
    - 30 to 39 years of age: 4%
    - 40 to 49 years of age: 2%
    - 50 to 59 years of age: 10%
  - This past July, individuals 60 years of age and older accounted for approximately 50% of COVID-19-related hospitalizations.
  - As of September 27, 42% of hospitalized individuals resided in a rural area, and 34% in a suburban/small metro area.
- The majority of the current healthcare burden appears to reside on the Western portion of the state
  - Fewer Cleveland/Columbus admissions for COVID-19
- Examples of COVID-19 spread in Ohio:
  - A husband in his eighties passed away of a non-COVID related cause. His funeral was in a neighboring state and his 85-year-old widow attended. The funeral director in the neighboring state did not wear a mask and passed COVID-19 to the widow, who subsequently became ill and passed away.
  - A man was in ICU for a non-COVID-19-related reason. The hospital tested him, and he was negative. His wife continued to come to visit him, but refused to wear a mask. She started feeling ill after a few days, and tested positive. Now, her husband is also COVID-19 positive.
  - Governor DeWine announced today that he has authorized a study focused on school students who are quarantined due to meeting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's definition of close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services COVID Care Line is available 24/7 for those struggling with mental health and/or addiction issues.
- Calls to this line do not need to be COVID-19-related.
- CARES Act funding planned to be used to support those struggling to pay their rent, mortgage, or water/sewer bills.

**Additional Information**
- [What’s New on the CDC Website](#)
- [COVID-19 Posters and Signs](#)
- [Updated COVID-19 Testing Guidance](#)
- [Scientific Brief: SARS-CoV-2 and Potential Airborne Transmission](#)

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<th>Prepared by:</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Dawn Cole</td>
<td>10/7/2020</td>
<td>0800</td>
<td>Lake County COVID-19 Partners</td>
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<td>Christine Margalis</td>
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<td>Matthew Nichols</td>
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