



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH, CITY OF KETCHIKAN, AND CITY OF SAXMAN

MEDIA RELEASE: TWO NEW KETCHIKAN RESIDENT POSITIVE CASES

Date: July 17, 2020
From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
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For Immediate Release

Two (2) new positive test results for COVID-19 have been identified through a local health clinic. Both individuals are Ketchikan residents and members of the same household.

The first individual had a recent history of travel within the State of Alaska and was tested by a local provider due to symptoms consistent with COVID-19. This individual was notified of the positive test result, directed to isolate, and is being monitored by healthcare providers.

The second individual, a household member, sought testing as a close contact of the positive case. This individual is asymptomatic, has been placed in isolation, and is being monitored by Public Health. Additional household members have been placed in quarantine and are being monitored.

Public Health officials have begun the contact investigation and will reach out to any person who may have come into contact with these individuals. Public Health will notify and quarantine additional persons as appropriate. Through the contact investigation, Public Health will direct testing of persons that meet criteria based on contact with any confirmed case of COVID-19. Individuals who meet the criteria are being tested in accordance with CDC and State of Alaska priorities.

These cases bring the cumulative COVID-19 case count, including travelers, to 36. The number of positive cases of individuals residing or staying in Ketchikan is 32. Of the 32 cases, 2 are still active, and 30 have recovered.

"Prior to the announcement of these two new cases, all of Ketchikan's prior cases had recovered. Our goal is to keep the case count manageable by isolating positive cases and reducing the spread, which is what we are seeing." – *Jen Bergen, RN, BSN, CPN, EOC Unified Command.*

If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop any symptoms, no matter how minor—such as a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing—call your healthcare provider for medical advice or use the Testing Hotline and call 247-TEST (8378).

Current information on the response to COVID-19 in Ketchikan is provided at www.kgbak.us/913/COVID-19-Response. Information on COVID-19 is available through the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) at www.covid19.alaska.gov.

#ketchikanstayhealthy #staystrongketchikan #stepsforahealthycommunity
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