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For Immediate Release

Subject: Notice Of COVID-19 Outbreak

NOTICE OF COVID-19 OUTBREAK TIED TO AUGUST 1 WEDDING EVENT.

On August 1st, 2020 there was a wedding event held at Boxed & Burlap in Delavan, Wisconsin. Many of the attendees were residents of Kankakee County. To date 11 attendees who are Kankakee County Residents have tested positive for COVID-19. Unfortunately, many of those who have tested positive are unwilling to cooperate with the Kankakee County Health Department Contact Tracing team to provide the names and contact information of others they were in close contact with and possibly exposed at the event.

Anyone who attended this event was potentially exposed to COVID-19 and should talk to their provider about getting tested, and monitor for COVID like symptoms.

As a reminder, if you have been notified by your provider that you are positive for COVID-19 you must Isolate, if you have been notified that you are a close contact of a COVID-19 positive case you must quarantine for 14 days even if you are asymptomatic and/or have had a negative test (see definitions below).

- **Isolation** is required when an individual is sick and/or tested positive for COVID-19. This means separating individuals who are ill/test positive for COVID-19 from others to keep the disease from spreading, including other members of the same household. A person must isolate for a **MINIMUM** of 10 days after symptom onset, or from the date your test was performed if you have no symptoms and can be released when criteria is met and are cleared by KCHD.
- **Quarantine** is required when an individual has had close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19. This keeps the individual away from others so if they develop symptoms of the disease, they have not been unknowingly spreading it.
 - If you have been instructed to quarantine, you must complete the entire 14 day duration of the quarantine even if you are asymptomatic and/or have a negative COVID test.
You cannot test your way out of quarantine!
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

Failure to follow quarantine and isolation instruction can lead to legal action taken against you which can include a Class A misdemeanor per Title 77 Part 690: Control of Communicable Diseases Code.

- <https://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/077/07700690sections.html>

We continue to stress the importance of avoiding large gatherings and group events to include weddings, fundraising events, large meetings, sporting events etc. We understand that this is a very difficult time, but these precautions are necessary to keep our community safe and we appreciate your patience and cooperation as the country and our county navigates response to this global pandemic.

The following are safety guidelines everyone in the community can follow:

- Wear a mask when in public, around individuals outside of your household, and anywhere social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Follow social distancing guidelines by maintaining 6 feet of distance between yourself and others.
- Do not attend or participate in large gatherings.
- Wash your hands often and practice proper hand hygiene.
- Disinfect commonly touched surfaces often.
- [Get tested if you are sick.](#)

KCHD wants to protect you and the people you love because we care about the community. Taking safety guidelines seriously and cooperating with KCHD contact tracers are necessary steps to protect Kankakee County and reduce the spread of COVID-19.

For more information on COVID-19, visit the KCHD website at www.kankakeehealth.org or on social media:

- Facebook: Kankakee County Health Department or @kankakeehealth
- Twitter: @kankakeehealth
- Instagram: @kankakeehealthdept

The COVID-19 pandemic is a public health issue, not a political one. Do your part to keep yourself, your loved ones, and your community safe.

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