

# NEWS

## For Immediate Release

July 16, 2020

### **First Valley County resident dies from COVID-19; community transmission identified in Boise County**

**VALLEY & BOISE COUNTIES** – This week, Central District Health (CDH) has confirmed the death of a Valley County resident who passed away from COVID-19-related illness. The person was a man in his 80s and is the first death of a Valley County resident related to the novel coronavirus. At the time of this release, 30 cases have been identified in Valley County residents.

The recent investigation of a Boise County resident who tested positive COVID-19 is the first case that points to community transmission. Boise County saw its first case on June 25, 2020, and since then, it has grown to 12 cases. Community transmission is determined when an individual has not had contact with a known infected person or recently traveled. The resident is a woman in her 50s who is recovering at home with moderate symptoms.

“Many of us regularly enjoy the great amenities that our rural counties have to offer, especially this time of year, but we need to do all that we can to protect those counties where immediate access to healthcare is much more limited than it is in our larger counties. We urge anyone visiting neighboring counties for recreation or otherwise, to do the responsible thing and wear face coverings when they’re in public places and keep physical distance to protect our fellow Idahoans,” said Russ Duke, District Director for Central District Health.

#### **CDH recommends that everyone:**

- Follow statewide orders and any local orders in place
- Practice social distancing: avoid crowds, maintain at least 6 feet from others

- Wear face coverings in public environments, especially in places where it's hard to maintain at least 6 feet of distance between yourself and another person
- Stay home if you are sick, even if symptoms are mild
- Limit your trips in public; limit unnecessary travel
- Wash your hands frequently and disinfect high-touch surfaces
- Create a plan for how to safely care for a household member if they become ill

COVID-19 case counts for CDH's four-county jurisdiction of Ada, Boise, Elmore and Valley counties are updated weekdays by 5 pm, unless otherwise indicated; weekly data is updated Mondays and Thursdays by noon at <https://www.cdh.idaho.gov/dac-coronavirus>.

### **Community COVID-19 Resources**

Central District Health continues to offer a COVID-19 call center Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call 208-321-2222. Find statewide data at <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/>.

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare offers a resource hotline for people feeling overwhelmed, isolated, or distress because of COVID-19. The hotline is available 24/7 at 888-330-3010.

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