

June 26, 2020

The Lawrence County Health Department is announcing 4 new cases of COVID-19. Lawrence County now has a total of 31 cases (8 of those are recovered, 23 are currently active).

We have made a decision to only post itineraries of positive cases if it poses **significant** risk to the community. You will be contacted directly if you have been identified as someone who has been in close contact with any positive cases during their infectious period.

One of our new cases is an employee at Play Power in Monett, MO. We have been working closely with Play Power to determine which employees were most at risk from working near this individual. All of those employees have been told to self-quarantine at home for 14 days from last exposure. Play Power has shut down a large area of the plant (30,000 sq. ft.) until Monday and will deep cleaning and disinfect all common areas. They are taking the situation very seriously and have been extremely cooperative. We will continue to follow up with the positive case and all close contacts during their time of isolation and quarantine.

Two of the new cases are direct contacts of active cases and one is still under investigation.

As cases continue to rise in Lawrence County and surrounding counties it is vital to continue taking precautions:

When out in public, understand that anyone you are around could potentially be carrying the virus. People are also infectious 48 hours **before** showing symptoms (unless asymptomatic). Therefore, we strongly recommend wearing a mask. Think of it as "I protect you, you protect me". Yes, masks are not 100% effective, but it sure beats no protection at all.

- **Wear a mask or face covering in public**
- **Avoid large crowds and gatherings**
- **Keep 6ft of distance between you and others (even when masked)**
- **Stay home when sick**
- **Wash hand frequently, don't touch your face, and clean frequently touched surfaces often**

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea. If symptoms develop, contact your health care provider. Visit our website at www.lawrencecohealth.com for more information about COVID-19 and testing.