

## NEWS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **Four New Positive Cases of COVID-19 in Southwest Nebraska**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) has been notified of four additional persons from SWNPHD's health district that have tested positive for COVID-19.

New cases include the following:

- Three Keith County residents - a male in his 80's and a female in her 60's, both related to direct contact, and a female in her 30's related to community spread.
- One Frontier County resident - a male in his 20's, related to travel.

Direct contact means health officials have linked these cases to another identified positive case of COVID-19, and they were in contact within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more. Community spread means that health officials are unable to identify where the individual became infected. Travel means the individual became infected due to someone traveling. These cases bring the total to 29 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Twenty-four of the cases have recovered, and there has been one death.

SWNPHD encourages anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 to contact their healthcare provider about being tested. Symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, chills or shaking, muscle pain, headache, or new loss of taste or smell. Anyone with symptoms should call ahead before going into any clinic or medical facility, and then stay at home and limit contact with others while waiting for test results.

TestNebraska events are now being conducted by three local healthcare providers. Mark's Pharmacy of Cambridge and Community Hospital of McCook have received a contract from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to give residents access to free COVID-19 testing in the health district. Banner Health Systems of Ogallala is currently in process to receive their contract. Anyone interested in being tested for COVID-19 can go to [testnebraska.com](http://testnebraska.com) to take the health assessment and make an appointment at one of the local testing events, with or without symptoms.

The health district is currently in Phase 3 of the Directed Health Measures. A copy of the DHM is located on the website. Updates on cases are given weekly. For more information on COVID-19 in southwest Nebraska, visit [www.swhealth.ne.gov](http://www.swhealth.ne.gov). You can also follow SWNPHD on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. SWNPHD serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins, and Red Willow counties. SWNPHD is located at 404 West 10th St (1 block north of Arby's) in McCook.

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