



# HO-CHUNK NATION

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Media

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 15, 2020

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### **COVID-19 Update *Confirmed Case in the Ho-Chunk Nation***

Ho-Chunk Nation – The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health received notification through the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS) of an additional confirmed case of COVID-19 within our jurisdiction, bringing the count to 9 positive cases. The Ho-Chunk Nation positive cases are reflected in the County reports that update daily at WIDHS.gov.

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health closely monitors all pending and positive cases within our jurisdiction. When the lab confirms a positive COVID-19 case, the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health is notified. It is the Department of Health's duty to follow up with the positive case to conduct a contact tracing investigation. During this investigation, the individual is asked to report on who they had close contact with (including others who were ill) and if they have recently traveled.

Please respect the privacy of person(s) being tested for COVID-19. HIPAA refers to a law designed to provide privacy standards to protect patients' medical records and other health information. Details about COVID-19 cases are confidential.

The number of people infected with COVID-19 continues to grow across Wisconsin and nationwide. The HCN Health Department jurisdiction reaches 15 counties in the State of Wisconsin and include: Dane, La Crosse, Wood, Sauk, Eau Claire, Columbia, Marathon, Monroe, Clark, Juneau, Jackson, Shawano, Vernon, Adams and Crawford.

Currently 14 of those County Health Departments are reporting positive cases. Physical or social distancing-the practice of keeping at least 6 feet apart from others and avoiding direct physical contact-is proving to be the only effective means of slowing the rate of infection. Staying home when it is not essential to leave, is absolutely necessary during this time. Our Tribal communities should remain diligent and stay safer at home.

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health is continually monitoring this outbreak and continues to work with our local county health departments and Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS).

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