



HO-CHUNK NATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Media

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Kiana Beaudin, Ho-Chunk Nation Health Department Health Officer, 715-284-9851

COVID-19 Update *Guidance from Center for Disease Control as positive cases increase*

Ho-Chunk Nation – The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health has received a notification through the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS) of an additional confirmed case of COVID-19 within our jurisdiction.

Positive cases across the State continue to grow as do the number of hospitalizations due to COVID-19 infections. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued updated recommendations because of the increase in transmission of Delta COVID-19 variant. This variant spreads much more quickly. **This trend signals that community members should take precautions NOW to prevent this illness. The best way to prevent COVID-19 is to get vaccinated.** The vaccine is safe and effective against COVID-19 including the new Delta variant. The number of positive cases are alarming amongst those who have not been fully vaccinated.

The vaccine continues to be our best defense against COVID-19 but the updated CDC guidance now includes other ways to protect yourself and our community. **Wearing masks is now recommended in the following indoor settings:**

- Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, who live in an area with substantial and high transmission should wear masks in public indoor settings.
- All teachers, staff, students, and visitors of K-12 schools should wear masks indoors regardless of vaccination status.

As of today, 13 of the 15 counties in the Department of Health service delivery area in Wisconsin are reporting substantial or high transmission of COVID-19.

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/local.htm#activity> We strongly encourage all Tribal members to follow the updated CDC guidance and wear a mask when indoors with people outside of your household. The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health is continually monitoring this pandemic and continues to work with our local county health departments and Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS).

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center

N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road

Black River Falls, WI 54615

House of Wellness

S2845 White Eagle Rd

Baraboo, WI 53913

Ph. 715-284-9851 FAX 715-284-5150

Ph. 888-552-7889 FAX 608-355-9643