



HO-CHUNK NATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 21, 2021

CONTACT: Kiana Beaudin, Ho-Chunk Nation Executive Director of Health, 715-284-9851

RE: Public Health Notifications Over the Holidays

Due to the arrival of the Omicron variant in Wisconsin and the continued State wide dramatic increases in COVID-19 cases, local public health **resources** have become **overwhelmed** with positive case notifications. As public health resources are continuing to be overburdened staff are not able to reach all positive persons. Ho-Chunk Tribal member results are not transferred to the HCN DOH automatically. The referral process from our partners is delayed not only due to the dramatic increases in COVID-19, but will be further impacted due to limited holiday hours.

If you have been told by a Provider you have COVID-19 but have NOT received a call/text/email from your local county public health department OR the HCN Department of Health, **please isolate and contact the HCN Public Health Nurse Ronelle at 715-896-2570 (please leave a message and number to be reached at)**. When HCN Public Health staff contact you, they will provide instructions on what you should do, as well as, answer questions you may have about COVID-19. The HCN Department of Health will continue to do disease investigations and contact tracing 7 days a week.

To protect our community the HCN DOH recommends that anyone over the age of 5 years get vaccine for COVID-19, those over 16 years get a booster as soon as you are eligible, stay home if you are sick, get tested for COVID-19 if you are experiencing symptoms, avoid large indoor gatherings, and wear a mask when in public. #Woxeteki

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