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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

From: Shalei Shea, RN BSN
McPherson County Health Department Director and McPherson County Health Officer

April 6, 2020 at 3:35 pm

NINE CASES OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) IDENTIFIED IN MCPHERSON COUNTY

McPherson County Health Department is confirming 9 total cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in McPherson County.

Today at 2:00 pm, KDHE Secretary Dr. Norman listed 11 counties that are currently experiencing clusters of positive cases. This simply means that KDHE is working directly with McPherson County Health Department regarding our positive cases. A "cluster" is recognized when 50% or more of known positive cases in the county are traced back to the same exposure. McPherson County's cluster is referring to a known facility, where 5 of our cases have been traced back to. Information about this facility will not be released to the public at this time.

McPherson County Health Department and key partners continue to actively investigate contacts and additional exposures. If you are an identified contact, you will be directly reached out to by local health officials.

Please depend on health authorities to provide the most accurate information for McPherson County. If you are experiencing a fever, shortness of breath, or a cough, please call your health care provider. If you do not have a primary health care provider, please call your local hospital.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has released a new mapping feature on their COVID-19 Resource page. The mapping feature includes positive case counts by county, total hospitalizations, total deaths, symptom onset and date diagnosed data, and lab testing rates by county. This resource can be found at <https://govstatus.egov.com/coronavirus> at the top of page, labeled "Map of COVID-19 in Kansas."

Please continue to stay at home, practice frequent handwashing, cover your cough and sneeze, avoid physical contact such as handshaking, and call your healthcare provider to discuss any illness.

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