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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## **CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) IDENTIFIED IN MCPHERSON COUNTY**

McPherson County Health Department reports 27 total confirmed cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in McPherson County. 22 of the total confirmed cases have now met recovery guidelines set forth by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. One of the total confirmed cases is currently hospitalized.

The newest identified positive case is a female in her 20s with unknown exposure and is recovering at home, but has been residing out of state. She is assigned to us because of her permanent address but does not have any general public contact in McPherson County.

Symptoms for COVID-19 appear 2-14 days after exposure and include fever, cough, shortness of breath, malaise, sore throat, chills, and diarrhea. If you develop any of these symptoms, contact your health care provider. You must stay home for at least 10 days after symptoms started or for 72 hours after fever is gone (without the use of fever-reducing medication) and with significant improvement in symptoms, whichever is longer.

If you develop symptoms that may indicate COVID-19, please call your health care provider. If you do not have a provider, please call your local hospital or the McPherson County Health Department at 620-241-1753 or email [machd@mcphersoncountyks.us](mailto:machd@mcphersoncountyks.us).

KDHE and MCHD continue to mandate a 14-day home quarantine for Kansas if you have done any of the following:

- Traveled within the United States to any of the following states with known widespread community transmission:
  - On or after March 15: New York
  - On or after March 23: Illinois, New Jersey
  - On or after April 6: Connecticut
  - On or after April 30: Massachusetts, Rhode Island
  - On or after May 12: Maryland
- Traveled internationally on or after March 15
- Traveled on a cruise ship or river cruise on or after March 15

We are currently in Phase 1.5 of Reopening Kansas. McPherson County Health Department has updated local recommendations to reflect the new phase. The documents can be found on [mcphersoncountyks.us](http://mcphersoncountyks.us) on the home page, under "COVID-19: Reopening McPherson County." McPherson County will not implement a more restrictive local order at this time.

McPherson County residents are encouraged to help slow the spread of coronavirus by:

- Following Phase 1.5 of Reopening Kansas and McPherson County ([mcphersoncountyks.us](http://mcphersoncountyks.us)).
- Maintaining social distancing.
- Avoiding gatherings in groups greater than 10-persons.
- Wearing cloth face coverings or homemade masks when in public.
- Practicing cough etiquette and washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

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