



Foothills Health District (FHD)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 15, 2020

Spindale, NC - The Rutherford County Health Department has been notified that 7 additional Rutherford County residents have tested positive for novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). These new cases are largely from close contacts with other positives and community transmission. The Health Department has also been notified of 2 additional deaths over the weekend, bringing us to 9 total COVID-19 related deaths in Rutherford County. To protect individual privacy, no further information about the cases will be released.

This brings the total number of positives to 228 in Rutherford County. There have been 3,083 people tested, 2,580 negative results and 275 tests are pending results. Currently, there are 45 individuals in quarantine, 174 out of quarantine and 9 deaths.

The Rutherford County Health Department and Rutherford County Emergency Management will keep the public informed by announcing any additional cases that may arise through our social media outlets and local media partners.

It is important for the community to understand that the identification of additional cases does not change our local strategies for preventing and reducing the spread of disease. The new positives from this past weekend are largely from close contacts with other positives and community transmission.

“We are very saddened to hear about the additional deaths over the weekend and our hearts go out to those families and friends who have lost a loved one. The continual rise in numbers and hospitalizations supports concerns that COVID 19 is, and continues to be, extremely infectious. We urge Rutherford County to remember that COVID-19 is still within our community and that we need to take the necessary precautions to protect ourselves as well as others,” stated Foothills Health District Health Director Karen Powell. “We must stay vigilant in social distancing, good hygiene and using protective measures to keep ourselves safe. We cannot lose focus of this serious situation, which is to stop the transmission of COVID-19 and to save lives. Your Public Health team is dedicated and committed to keeping you safe and protecting the community.”

The Health Department is continuing to test individuals for COVID-19. If an individual would like to be tested, they can call the medical screening hotline at (828) 289-1185. The operator will ask a list of questions and will provide the caller with the appropriate instructions based upon the answers given. The hours of operation for this hotline are 8:30 AM - 5 PM, Monday through Friday. Stay at home inquiries and Public Information can be addressed by calling (828) 289-0636. If you are having a medical emergency, call 9-1-1 and inform the dispatcher that you have symptoms of COVID-19.

For additional information about Foothills Health District or other community resources and health related data, please call our offices, Rutherford Co. (828) 287-6100, McDowell (828) 652-6811, or visit our website at <http://www.foothillshd.org/>

BUSINESS OFFICE
221 Callahan Koon Rd.
Spindale, NC 28160
(828) 287-6100
(828) 287-6059 Fax

RUTHERFORD CO. HEALTH DEPT.
221 Callahan Koon Rd.
Spindale, NC 28160
(828) 287-6100
(828) 287-6059 Fax

MCDOWELL CO. HEALTH DEPT
408 Spaulding Rd.
Marion, NC 28752
(828) 652-6811
(828) 652-9373 Fax