

For roughly the past 77 days straight, we as a community have been working to mitigate the impact COVID-19 has had on our citizenry. Our residents, business and civic leaders along with city and county leaders have all done a good job, which has contributed to only 9 Cherokee County residents who have tested positive, and fortunately no deaths. As we continue to urge everyone to promote physical health by following basic hygiene practices of sanitization, respecting the personal space of others and taking responsibility with regards to protective measures and limitations on activities, we have also been moving into the recovery phase which will help promote economic health and stability. As a result, and with statewide restrictions no longer in place, the plan of the county Emergency Response Team, which consists of Health Department Administrator Betha Elliott, Emergency Manager Jason Allison and myself, along with our incredible staffs, will be to continue working with one another, along with our local, state and federal partners, to meet the needs of our community. However, we will not be sending out daily briefings after tomorrow, Friday, May 29, 2020. Instead, we will be responsive to any specific requests you may have and will likewise send out any briefing information we feel may be beneficial to members of this group. We sincerely appreciate your partnership, your willingness to work as a cohesive team and for all each of you do for our community as a whole!

Thursday, May 28, 2020 Local Briefing Notes

Locally

Cherokee County has 1 active positive case, bringing our total to 9 since tracking began. Eight of the previous cases have since recovered and are no longer considered contagious.

Statewide

New Quarantine and Isolation release criteria has been adopted by the **Kansas Department of Health and Environment**. I'm attaching a graphic depicting the new requirements. It's important to note Quarantine and Isolation requirements are codified in state statute and not subject to Disaster Declaration. So, these requirements remain law regardless of the status of any Executive Orders. I'm attaching a copy of KSA 65-129b and KSA 65-129c, which specifically addressed the Local Health Officer's authority in regards to quarantine and isolation.

Kansas Department of Education advised it has been communicated to Superintendent's to follow any local restrictions where the actual school building / activity is located (relevant to districts with facilities in more than one county). They are also working on guidance for the re-opening of school facilities.

If any foodbanks are needing assistance, **logistics** is able to provide that, they just need a Point of Contact. They are currently completing about 100,000 meals per day. Regarding gowns, some of them have been thinner than previously provided, so if they don't work, they can provide Tyvek suits.

The **Department of Labor** reports the number of claimants remains roughly the same as last week.

The **National Weather Service** stated it should rain across the east and southeast part of the state this afternoon, which could result in flooding. Nothing severe predicted over the weekend.

Nationwide

Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Mark Milley is “very confident that a vaccine will be on line beginning sometime in the fall” and “the goal is to have upward of three hundred million doses by the first of January.”

John Hopkins University reports 5,727,629 COVID-19 cases worldwide since tracking began. This includes 356,435 deaths reported globally. Domestically, they report 1,702,911 positive cases, 100,576 deaths and 391,508 recovered.

Below is our local daily positive report.

Thanks!
Sheriff David Groves