

## Tuesday, March 31, 2020 Cherokee County Daily Briefing Notes

As of the time of this email, there have been 428 positive COVID-19 cases in Kansas. Cherokee County has had three confirmed COVID-19 cases since testing began and as previously mentioned, one of those three cases has been cleared from isolation after meeting Kansas Department of Health and Environment Criteria.

Secretary of Kansas Department of Health, Dr. Lee Norman said during a briefing it's still too early to tell if someone diagnosed with COVID-19 could contract it again. He does anticipate this being a seasonal virus, peaking in Kansas around April 24<sup>th</sup>, but potentially returning in the fall.

According to Dr. Norman, Kansas received a shipment of 65,000 tests and are working to get the new testing platforms online soon. He hopes to be able to run 700-1,000 tests daily at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment lab.

We were joined on our 1:00 conference call by Governor Laura Kelly. Governor Kelly first thanked everyone working hard around the clock, demonstrating patience in their efforts to help keep Kansans safe. In addition, she thanked those providing input on a globally changing situation and mentioned as a result of that input she anticipates amending her Executive Order in an effort to provide clarification, but wants to get everything together so it only needs modified once. Finally, Governor Kelly stated they were working on going through the business inquiries sent in to the [KEFF@ks.gov](mailto:KEFF@ks.gov) email and hopes to be getting replies started this afternoon.

Additional information about the Kansas Essential Function Framework can be found at: [www.governor.kansas.gov/keff](http://www.governor.kansas.gov/keff).

The Kansas Department of Transportation stated they have sent communication to their contractors, asking them to review their supplies and contact their local emergency management office if they are able to provide any N95 masks or other essential supplies.

There was a request for cities and counties to continue stressing the importance of refraining from open burning due to respiratory issues which may be complicated due to the smoke.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment stated the priority for Personal Protective Equipment was: 1) Health and Medical 2) Law Enforcement / Fire Departments 3) Food Supply / Safety

The Kansas Department of Education Announced a grant "Emergency Meals To You," where meals can be sent directly to students, rather than having them picked up or having school staff deliver them. I am attaching a flyer for the program and also additional information can be found at [www.mealstoyou.org](http://www.mealstoyou.org).

It was mentioned a single food service worker in Kansas tested positive resulting in numerous school food service workers across the state not working, so the Meals To You Program may be a good solution to explore.

The question of whether or not convenience stores needed to stop allowing self-serve of fountain drinks. The immediate response was yes, they should not be allowing that. Following a discussion, it was stated the state would seek further guidance and get back with a response.

The Board of EMS stated extensions would be granted for services having trouble obtaining an ASE Certified mechanic during this time to complete their inspections.

KDHE is working on obtaining a legal opinion of who would cover volunteer EMS personnel and other medical volunteers.

Locally, Health Department Administrator Betha Elliott has been working regularly with the nursing homes and long-term living facilities. She has encouraged them to consider if their staff goes to areas of wide-spread community transmission and also to promote social distancing for families who are visiting their loved ones through the window.

Below you will find today's KDHE Daily Update. The KDHE update is generated once a day so it isn't real time.

Thanks for all you continue to do!

Sheriff David Groves