

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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**Big Horn County
Confirms 9th Case of COVID-19
*Six (6) Active Cases in County***

HARDIN, MONTANA (May 26, 2020) – Big Horn County added one (1) confirmed positive case of COVID-19 today. The patient is a male in his teens. He is unassociated with any previously-known confirmed case.

The eight (8) previous cases were:

- Two (2) females in their teens
- Two (2) females in their 20's
- One (1) female in her 50's
- One (1) male in his teens
- One (1) male in his 30's
- One (1) male in his 40's

Three (3) of the earlier confirmed-positive patients have recovered. The remaining six (6) patients, including this newly-confirmed patient, are quarantining and recovering at home.

The Indian Health Service (IHS) Public Health Nursing, with assistance from the Big Horn County Public Health Department, have been tracing the contacts of this new case. As with previous cases, all close contacts will be notified, interviewed, and given instructions for further action if required.

Tracking down contacts to a positive case is one of the best tools public health can use to slow the spread of the virus. If you believe you were in the presence of a recently confirmed COVID-19 case for more than five (5) minutes, please call public health so that a nurse may interview you and determine what level of exposure you have:

- IHS Public Health: (406) 638-3478
- Big Horn County Public Health: (406) 665-8720

Big Horn County would also like to remind everyone that two (2) COVID-19 sentinel surveillance testing events will be held this week as follows:

- Wednesday, May 27, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. near Crow/Northern Cheyenne Hospital in Crow Agency
- Thursday, May 28, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Hardin High School in Hardin

Everyone is encouraged to come to one of these events and all are welcome at either location, whether or not you are a member of the Crow Tribe of Indians. Those wishing to be tested are required to bring valid I.D. and provide a working telephone number and physical address (not P.O. Box) for follow-up with testing results.

IHS Public Health Nursing and Big Horn County Public Health wish to remind all residents of Big Horn County of the best ways to prevent the transmission of this illness: stay home; wash your hands thoroughly and often; clean and sanitize frequently touched surfaces and items; wear a mask when in public; stay at least six (6) feet away from other people; and avoid travel out of the County if at all possible. And if you are feeling sick, do not go to work or leave your home; rather, contact your healthcare provider for guidance.

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Big Horn County is the sixth largest county in Montana, at approximately 5,023 square miles, and with a population exceeding 13,000. The local government was established January 13, 1913. Hardin is the County Seat. <https://www.bighorncountymt.gov/>. For more information about the County's COVID-19 response, please visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BHCMTResponds>.