

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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Big Horn County Announces 47th Death from COVID-19

25 newly-confirmed cases added

HARDIN, MONTANA (November 21, 2020) – Big Horn County today announced the 47th death of a County resident due to complications from the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The decedent is a man in his 60's who was hospitalized prior to his death. He died Wednesday, November 18, 2020.

This is the 7th death recorded in November. The County's fatality rate is 2.6% (47 deaths out of 1,783 total cases).

The Big Horn County COVID-19 Response Unified Coalition sends our warmest condolences to his family and friends in their grief.

Big Horn County added 25 new cases of COVID-19 on Friday, November 20, 2020. Four (4) patients were asymptomatic (without symptoms) and 21 presented with symptoms when tested. Of the 25 cases, ten (10) were likely contracted through community spread and 15 cases could be traced by public health to previously-known cases of coronavirus.

The new cases are:

| Age Ranges | Female | Male | Totals |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Under age 10 | - | 2 | 2 |
| Age 10 – 19 | - | 1 | 1 |
| Age 20 – 29 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Age 30 – 39 | 2 | - | 2 |
| Age 40 – 49 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Age 50 – 59 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Age 60 – 69 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Over age 70 | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Totals | 12 | 13 | 25 |

Total confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Big Horn County:

| Age Ranges | Female | Male | Totals | Recovered | Active | Deaths |
|---------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|------------|-----------|
| Under age 10 | 70 | 73 | 143 | | | |
| Age 10 – 19 | 139 | 138 | 277 | | | |
| Age 20 – 29 | 157 | 139 | 296 | | | |
| Age 30 – 39 | 150 | 145 | 295 | | | |
| Age 40 – 49 | 125 | 98 | 223 | | | |
| Age 50 – 59 | 127 | 93 | 220 | | | |
| Age 60 – 69 | 100 | 91 | 191 | | | |
| Over age 70 | 82 | 56 | 138 | | | |
| Totals | 950 | 833 | 1,783 | 1,568 | 168 | 47 |

Recoveries in the County increased by 62 to 1,568. 47 persons are deceased. Of the 268 active cases, 146 patients are quarantining and recovering at home. The number of Big Horn County resident patients currently hospitalized in the region is 22.

| Month | Number of Cases | Number of Deaths |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| April | 3 | - |
| May | 27 | - |
| June | 44 | 3 |
| July | 249 | 5 |
| August | 357 | 8 |
| September | 294 | 7 |
| October | 456 | 17 |
| November (11/20/2020 to date) | 353 | 7 |
| Total since Pandemic Began | 1,783 | 47 |

With the rising trend in new COVID-19 cases, it is more important than ever to follow the three W's: Wash your hands; Watch your distance from other people; Wear a mask. The County asks all residents to please continue stay home more often and to avoid events or gatherings. Also, the Board of County Commissioners and Board of Public Health ask everyone to wear a mask and social distance when outside of their homes and in public. Masks are required when engaged in indoor activities, such as shopping. Masks are not necessary in the event that residents are outdoors and unlikely to come within six (6) feet of other people, such as while taking advantage of our beautiful county, to work, recreate, or exercise outside.

Tracking down contacts to a positive case (contact tracing) 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 Nursing: (406) 638-3478
- Big Horn County Public Health: (406) 665-8720

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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>.