

Wichita Falls-Wichita County Public Health District

1700 Third St. | Wichita Falls, TX 76301 | 940-761-7800 | www.health.wichitafallstx.gov

PRESS RELEASE March 18, 2020

Wichita County First Confirmed COVID-19 Case

Wichita Falls, Texas – The Wichita Falls-Wichita County Public Health District reports the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Wichita County. The patient is a 64-year-old Wichita County resident who traveled to Budapest and Hungary. He flew into the DFW Airport and then drove to Wichita Falls. Upon return he developed a cough and a sore throat. He was seen by a private physician and was tested by a private laboratory. The patient is currently being cared for at home and their movement has been restricted to their care setting only. Upon the patients return to Wichita Falls, public health guidelines were followed so that the patient and Spouse were isolated at home other than the medical visit. The only other person the patient has had contact with is their Spouse and the Spouse self-isolated from the patient and remains asymptomatic. There are no other members in the household.

The Health District emphasizes that everyone can take the necessary measures to protect themselves and prevent the spread of COVID-19, or any other respiratory illness, by doing the following:

- Practice Social Distancing
- Washing your hands often with soap and water, or using a hand sanitizer if water is not available;
- Covering your sneezes and coughs;
- Keeping hands away from your face;
- Avoiding people who are ill;
- Preventing the spread of any respiratory illness by staying home if sick; and
- Routinely cleaning commonly touched surfaces.

The COVID-19 situation continues to change daily. The Health District will continue to monitor for, and respond to, any COVID-19 cases in Wichita Falls and Wichita County. We will keep our citizens informed as this situation evolves.

A phone bank will be activated today, by 11AM, at the Health District for citizens who have questions. The helpline number is 940-761-7909.

Media Contact: Lou Kreidler, Director of Health. (940) 761-7805.