



Johnson County Emergency Operations Center
Immediate Press Release
3/23/20 8:00pm

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE UPDATES

No new updates on 3/23/20.

Prior Update. Governor Mark Gordon on March 19, 2020, endorsed a decision by the Wyoming State Health Officer to close public places for a two-week period to help slow the community spread of the COVID-19 virus.

The closure order extends through April 3, 2020, and includes schools, theaters, bars, nightclubs, coffee shops, employee cafeterias, self-serve buffets, salad bars, unpackaged self-serve food services, gyms, conference rooms and museums.

Restaurants will be closed to dine-in food service, but may remain open for curbside take-out or drive-through food service. Under the order, childcare centers will be closed except for those serving essential personnel.

This order does not apply to places of public accommodation that offer food and beverage not for on premises consumption, including grocery stores, markets, retail stores that offer food, convenience stores, pharmacies, drug stores, and food pantries.

SENIOR CENTER UPDATES:

No new updates on 3/23/20.

Prior updates:

The Kaycee Senior Meal Site is closed as of Friday, March 20, 2020. We are delivering meals to all people over the age of 60. If you would like a meal please call the County Inn Cafe at (307) 738-2291.

The BATS Bus is still operating: Sunday 8:30 am to 2:00 pm and Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. We are screening all riders, if you have any symptoms you will not be able to ride, unless it is a doctors appointment. If you have symptoms of COVID-19 and need to go to the doctor you will be required to wear a mask before you can get into the vehicle.

In-Home Services are still operating, we have limited the services to higher risk patients and are seeing them as little as possible, while still maintaining their health.

JOHNSON COUNTY HEALTHCARE CENTER UPDATES

Current Updates 3/23/20

Patient Testing:

- Five patients have been tested at this time. All five tests were negative.

Donations:

- JCHC is not accepting cloth masks at this time.

- JCHC is accepting donations of surgical masks, medical gloves, and N95 masks. Donations should be in original packaging; partial, opened packages are acceptable. Dropoff box location TBA.

Off Site Evaluation Center: (RVEC)

- Off-site Evaluation Center is currently in the planning phase

Testing Kits

- JCHC has acquired more test kits. 75 test kits will be available by Friday.
- Current state testing facility provides results in two days.

Drug Protocols

- JCHC medical staff is reviewing data on new drug protocols and clinical trials daily.
- JCHC has secured a supply of azithromycin should that drug prove effective and chloroquine but recommends that patients with symptoms consult with JCHC.
- Available drugs will be used for treatment of patients in ICU and are not recommended for prophylaxis (preventative) self-care at this time.

Prior JCHC Updates:

Changes at JCHC:

- Our entrances are closed except in a few areas, in order to better monitor the people coming into the facility. We are screening everyone entering JCHC and AHCC in order to reduce the spread of COVID-19.
- AHCC's current census is 41, which leaves three open beds. We will not admit new residents for the foreseeable future in order to limit foot traffic at AHCC and further prevent the spread of infection.

Community Partnering:

- JCHC is collaborating with the EOC and Public Health to obtain supplies from the National and State Stockpiles in an effort to be prepared.
- In the event that all staff are needed to care for sick patients, JCHC is exploring childcare options with our community partners.

CDC Guidelines:

- JCHC **strongly** encourages community members to follow all guidelines, especially in relation to social distancing.
-
- **Translations**
 - We will make efforts to have our press briefings put out in Spanish as well as English
- **Stress**
 - Stress is a very real piece of this unprecedented situation. We are exploring ways to help the staff at JCHC reduce the stress associated with COVID-19.

WYOMING HIGHWAY PATROL UPDATE

3/23/20 The Wyoming Highway Patrol reports that a rumor circulating regarding a pending closure of state borders is not valid. There are no plans at this time to cut off access to state roads.

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE UPDATE

3/23/20 The Clerk's Office remains open but will restrict access to one individual at a time due to space limitations. Those who need to visit the office are encouraged to preview necessary documents via email. Original documents are still required. The office will accept business as usual.