

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SAGINAW COUNTY REPORTS FIRST LOCAL COVID-19 DEATHS

Saginaw COVID-19 Testing numbers as of 4/06/20 10:05AM		
Total Tests	739	
Total Pending	380	
Negative	220	
Positive	139	
Deaths	2	

(SAGINAW) – Saginaw County Health Department is reporting the first local deaths attributed to COVID-19. The individuals were both male, over the age of 75.

"Our condolences go out to the families who have lost loved ones," said Christina Harrington, MPH, Saginaw County Health Officer. "While we know there are no words that can lessen the grief of these families and our community's loss and fears, their deaths are an urgent reminder to all of us. We must act now and act together to protect everyone's health to the greatest degree possible."

Following Governor Whitmer's <u>Executive Order 2020-21</u> to shelter-in-place at home, strong community mitigation and prevention measures are already in place. The Health Department recommends that everyone:

- Stay at home Do not leave home except for essential tasks such as getting groceries or seeking medical care.
- If you are out, stay at least 6 feet away from others.
- Wash your hands often and well, especially after being away from home.
- **Do not touch your face or mouth**, especially when out.
- Check on others Call your loved ones and neighbors who are most at risk and see how they are doing. If they require an essential errand, see how you can help.

Everyone should be following the above guidance, taking precautions, practicing prevention, and assuming potential exposure in public locations.

"During this difficult time, it is also a critical time for us to work together and to protect each other and support our health care workers and other essential workers," said Harrington. "Together we can slow the spread of illness and maintain care and resources for everyone."

For regular Saginaw County updates, follow the Saginaw County Health Department on Facebook. FAQ videos, fact sheets, and data by community is available at <u>www.saginawpublichealth.org</u>.

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