



BECKER COUNTY

Administration

915 Lake Avenue • Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

218-846-7201

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 12, 2020

BECKER COUNTY RESPONDS TO COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)

Detroit Lakes, MN- Becker County Health and Human Services (HHSA) Public Health understands there are concerns about novel coronavirus. Although coronaviruses are a group of viruses that are not new, this is a new type of coronavirus and we are still learning about it. Becker County does not have any cases at this time and the health risk to the general public in Minnesota remains low.

Becker County's Public Health Department is working closely with state and local partners and other health systems to assess the situation locally and provide guidance as necessary. The status of COVID-19 is changing rapidly. Becker County Public Health have plans in place and are ready to respond.

"Our County's departments and personnel are communicating with our key partners and working with the healthcare systems and direct care facilities to prepare and respond to all types of emergencies. Public Health has a plan in place to support individuals affected by a viral outbreak should they have trouble accessing medication and services due to a quarantine." said Becker County Board Chair, Ben Grimsley.

As with any virus, especially during the flu season, Public Health reminds you there are several steps you can take to be proactive to protect your health and those around you:

- Washing hands with soap and water.
- Covering cough.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick are all ways to reduce the risk of infection with a number of different viruses.
- Staying away from work, school or other people if you become sick with respiratory symptoms like fever and cough.
- Stay informed and visit the Becker County Website at: www.co.becker.mn.us

Contacts

The point of contact for this press release is Michael Brethorst, Becker County Administrator. He can be reached at 218-846-7201 or via e-mail at mike.brethorst@co.becker.mn.us

-End -