April 13, 2020

PRESS RELEASE:

COVID-19 UPDATE – LINCOLN COUNTY, NC

Lincolnton, NC –
The following counts are based on data reported to the Lincoln County Health Department as of today:

Lincoln County Specific Data - COVID-19				
Total Tested	Positive - Active Cases	Positive - Recovered Cases	Negative Cases	PUIs
473	2	13	457	1

- A positive active case is a person who tested positive in a commercial, state, or CDC lab and remains in isolation until cleared.
- A positive recovered case is a person who tested positive in a commercial, state, or CDC lab but has now met the state criteria for clearance.
- A negative case is a person that is no longer considered a PUI because they tested negative in a commercial or state lab.
- A PUI is a person who was tested based on COVID-19 testing criteria and is self-isolating until test results are received. During the period of self-isolation, the Lincoln County Health Department provides daily contact management to all PUIs to monitor symptoms or contacts.

The next Lincoln County COVID-19 data update will be released on Wednesday, April 15, 2020.

Lincoln County residents are urged to exercise judgment and take the following precautions as appropriate:

STAY HOME AND CALL YOUR DOCTOR, IF NEEDED
Most people who get COVID-19 will recover without needing medical care. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that you stay home if you have mild symptoms – such as fever and cough without shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. You can call your doctor to see if you need medical care.

MOST PEOPLE DO NOT NEED A TEST.
When you leave your home to get tested, you could expose yourself to COVID-19 if you do not already have it. If you do have COVID-19, you can give it to someone else, including people who are high risk.

ISOLATE YOURSELF

If you are sick with COVID-19 or believe you might have it, you should stay home and separate yourself from other people in the home as much as possible.

➢ You can stop isolating yourself and go back to your normal activities when you answer YES to ALL THREE questions:

1. Has it been at least 3 days (72 hours) since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications?
2. Has it been at least 3 days (72 hours) since you have had an improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath)?
3. Has it been at least 7 days since symptoms first appeared?

Reference: https://files.nc.gov/ncdhhs/documents/files/covid-19/C19-PatientGuidance-3.23.20-FINAL--003-.pdf

Practice good hygiene and take everyday preventive actions to reduce exposure:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds at a time.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are ill.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Do not reuse tissue after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are frequently touched.

Visit the following link for Lincoln County specific updates regarding COVID-19: https://bit.ly/2X9N9R8

Continue to monitor information provided by the CDC, NCDHHS, and www.LincolnCounty.org/health in addition to official State or County communications.

For questions or concerns regarding your risk for COVID-19, use the following numbers:

- Lincoln County Health Department triage line, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm: 704-736-8510.
- Atrium Health triage line, 24/7: 704-512-5700
- Novant Health triage line, 24/7: 877-499-1697
- For after-hour concerns or general questions please dial 211 for assistance or call the 24/7 Coronavirus Helpline at 1-866-462-3821.
- Partners Behavioral Health Management- Access to Care line: 1-888-235-4673

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