



**For immediate release: July 5, 2020**

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**COVID-19 UPDATE:** The Richland County Health Department is announcing three additional active cases of COVID-19 in Richland County residents. This brings the total case count to 24. Nine of the total cases are recovered, and 15 are active. A full case update will be provided at a later time. Case updates are as follows:

*New, active cases*

Case 24: A male in his 20's who is not hospitalized and is isolating at home. The case investigation is ongoing and contact tracing has begun. The case was identified through contact tracing. The individual became symptomatic while undergoing quarantine.

Case 23: A male in his 20's who is not hospitalized and is isolating at home. The case investigation is ongoing and contact tracing has begun. The case was named as a close contact to a positive case. The individual became symptomatic while undergoing quarantine.

Case 22: A male in his 50's who is not hospitalized and is isolating at home. The case investigation is ongoing and contact tracing has begun. The case was a household contact to a named close contact. The individual became symptomatic while undergoing quarantine.

The Health Department continues to monitor more than 50 close contacts daily. The Health Department's investigations show that residents could be doing more to follow COVID-19 preventative recommendations, particularly in regard to not going out when sick, staying home after being tested, and avoiding large gatherings.

It is imperative that Richland County residents follow instructions from the Health Department and healthcare providers. The following are important reminders:

- If you are not feeling well, particularly including symptoms of a dry cough, fever, shortness of breath, headache, and other cold-like symptoms, stay home until you feel better. This means that you do not go to work, do not attend regular activities, and cancel or postpone appointments.
- If you have been tested for COVID-19 for any reason, including preoperative testing, you must stay home until test results are received. This means that you do not go to work, do not attend regular activities, and cancel or postpone appointments.
- All residents should be practicing social distancing, including limiting the number of close contacts. This means avoiding large gatherings where social distancing is difficult. Wearing a mask in situations where social distancing is difficult is also recommended.

Together we can slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Please do your part so Richland County can recover socially and economically from this pandemic.