



Valdez COVID-19 Unified Command

NEWS RELEASE # 003

For immediate release: 06/27/2020 @ 5:00 p.m.

Valdez, AK – The community of Valdez received confirmation of its second resident case of COVID-19 on Saturday.

The new resident case is symptomatic and considered a close contact of the Valdez resident case announced on June 24th. They have been in isolation at home since Wednesday and are following the guidance of their medical provider and public health officials. The contact investigation for this new case is ongoing, with all close contacts anticipated to be notified by Sunday afternoon.

“While a second resident case is concerning for our community, it demonstrates why limiting your interactions with others during this pandemic is so important,” said Dr. Angela Alfaro, physician consultant to the Valdez Unified Command. “We’ve seen other places in the state recently where patients interacted with many people and their close contacts could not be easily identified for direct notification. When public health officials cannot figure out names and phone numbers of close contacts, they must issue a broader public health notice indicating a place, date, and time where people may have been exposed. In both the Valdez resident cases this week, public health officials were able to easily identify and notify all close contacts of the patients.”

To learn more about the public health contact tracing process in Alaska, visit: <https://bit.ly/2BgsnXr>

Residents, employers, and visitors must continue making thoughtful and careful decisions as long as COVID-19 remains present in Alaska and beyond. Taking small, individual actions like hand hygiene, physical distancing, wearing a cloth face covering around others, keeping your social bubble small, and staying home when you are sick all make a big impact towards keeping our community safe.

Please continue to monitor yourself for COVID-19 symptoms which include a fever, cough, sore throat, difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell, and any new onset of illness. If you believe you have even mild symptoms, contact your healthcare provider for screening and closely follow their instructions. Remember to call ahead before you go to the doctor’s office, public health clinic, or hospital. The local medical team will continue to provide the best possible care for you and our community.

Limited asymptomatic testing is currently available in Valdez for select high risk populations. Visit www.valdezak.gov/COVID-19 for additional information and to learn more about different local testing options.

The Valdez Unified Command and public health officials continue to closely monitor the rapidly changing course of COVID-19. We remain committed to providing information, support, and resources to protect the health, safety, and well-being of Valdez during this unprecedented time.

VALDEZ COVID-19 CASE COUNT					
Last updated 06.27.2020 5:00 p.m.					
	CUMULATIVE CASES TO DATE	ACTIVE CASES	RECOVERED CASES	HOSPITALIZATIONS	DEATHS
VALDEZ RESIDENT	2	2	0	0	0
NON-RESIDENT	2	1	1	0	0

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Contact: Allie Ferko, public information officer, Valdez Unified Command afferko@valdezak.gov, (907) 202-0711