



Valdez COVID-19 Unified Command

NEWS RELEASE # 043

For immediate release: 11/12/2020, 9:00 p.m.

Valdez, AK – The community of Valdez received confirmation of three new resident cases of COVID-19 on Thursday.

Two of the new cases are minors with symptoms. The third case is an adult with symptoms. All three patients are in isolation and following the guidance of their medical provider and public health officials.

Both the contact and source investigations for these cases remain ongoing. Preliminary investigation indicates the three new cases are linked to each other. However, they do not appear to be linked to other recent Valdez cases. The patients have also not recently travelled. Public health officials believe this indicates community transmission is occurring in Valdez and other cases are likely present. Close contacts of the three new cases are anticipated to be notified through the weekend. The Valdez School District nurse is assisting DHSS Public Health with close contact notifications. Please try your best to answer your phone in case your family must be notified of a possible exposure.

Please Help Protect Our Community and Our Healthcare System!

- Wear a face covering when you are around anyone outside your household, even when you can maintain physical distancing of six feet.
- Keep your social circles small and consistent.
- Look for creative ways to minimize risk as you plan your holiday celebrations.
- Prevent additional strain on our local medical community by getting your flu shot and avoiding high risk activities which could result in injury.

Do You Have Even Mild COVID-19 Symptoms? Please 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.

What is a Close Contact? A close contact is an individual who was within six feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more while they are contagious. Close contacts must quarantine for 14 days to see if they develop symptoms and to prevent possible transmission to additional people. **Close contacts cannot test out of quarantine, however testing helps determine who else might be at risk. Based upon the incubation period of this virus, close contacts should be tested in their second week of quarantine if asymptomatic or as soon as possible if they develop even one symptom of COVID-19.**

Think You’ve Been Exposed to COVID-19? Please reach out to the Valdez Public Health Nurse (835-4612) or your medical provider for guidance on next steps.

The Valdez Unified Command and public health officials continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 situation. We ask the community to practice compassion and remember that behind every case count number is a person dealing with a difficult diagnosis. We remain committed to providing information, support, and resources for our community.

VALDEZ COVID-19 CASE COUNT					
Last updated 11.12.2020 @ 8:00 p.m.					
	CUMULATIVE CASES TO DATE	ACTIVE CASES	RECOVERED CASES	CUMULATIVE HOSPITALIZATIONS	DEATHS
VALDEZ RESIDENT	38	7	30	1*	1
NON-RESIDENT	30	0	30	1*	0

*Valdez case hospitalized in ANC.

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