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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 28, 2020

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COVID-19 Case in McHenry County Long-Term Care Facility

MCHENRY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IS WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE FACILITY TO REDUCE THE SPREAD

WOODSTOCK – The McHenry County Department of Health (MCDH) announces its first case of COVID-19 in a McHenry County long-term care facility.

MCDH received the positive test result on Saturday. The long-term care resident is currently hospitalized and in isolation.

"Those who live in these facilities are at greater risk for poorer outcomes based on their age and underlying health conditions," said Public Health Administrator Melissa Adamson. "We've been in constant communication with long-term care facilities throughout McHenry County in an effort to provide guidance and address their needs."

Susan Karras, Director of Public Health Nursing, stated that "the facility reported to MCDH appropriately and is working very closely with MCDH to reduce the spread."

MCDH is assisting long-term care facilities with PPE supply and prioritizing PPE supplies to those facilities in most need, said Karras. In addition, MCDH encourages all facilities to reinforce:

- Staff staying home when ill
- Screening staff at the start of their shift and midway into shift
- Washing hands frequently
- Disinfecting high touch surfaces
- Restricting visitors
- Proper use of PPE

The CDC categorized transmission of COVID-19 in Illinois as widespread. Across Illinois, the age of cases ranges from younger than one to 99 years. The number of cases are expected to rise over the next three weeks. The number of cases in McHenry County are updated on MCDH's COVID-19 website every day by 5 p.m.

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Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](https://www.mcdh.info/preventing-covid-19-spread-in-communities) or by visiting mcdh.info. For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov.

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