

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PAUL M. WENDEL, JR. County Executive CHRISTINE SCHUYLER Director of Health & Human Services (Commissioner of Social Services/Public Health Director)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 12, 2020 Contact: Christine Schuyler (716) 753-4590

53 New Cases of COVID-19 reported October 10-12

45 cases related to Tanglewood Manor/Memory Gardens



Pictured from left--PJ Wendel, Chautauqua County Executive, and Christine Schuyler, Chautauqua County Public Health Director.

MAYVILLE, N.Y.: - On October 12, Chautauqua County Officials provided an update on the novel Coronavirus-19 (COVID-19) in Chautauqua County.

COVID-19 is an infection associated with fever and signs and symptoms of pneumonia or other respiratory illness. If spread in the population, COVID-19 could have significant health consequences.

From October 10 through 12, Chautauqua County statistics are:

- 120 active cases, continue to recover under orders of the Local Health Official per NYS Public Health Law including:
 - \circ 53 new cases were reported from October 10 -12 including:
 - 5 cases in 14048 (Dunkirk)
 - 42 cases in 14701 (Jamestown)
 - 3 cases in 14750 (Lakewood)
 - 1 case in 14712 (Bemus Point)
 - 1 case in 14723 (Cherry Creek)
 - 1 case in 14781 (Sherman)
- To date:
 - o 658 recovered cases;
 - o 13 deaths; and
 - o 791 total confirmed cases.

"The 35 new cases for October 12 are related to a newly identified cluster involving Tanglewood Manor," said PJ Wendel, Chautauqua County Executive. "We have been working with Tanglewood, New York State Department of Health, UMPC Chautauqua, and other community partners to contain this spread. This situation is still evolving, but as we have with other clusters, we wanted to get the information out to the community quickly and effectively."

The Chautauqua County Health Department has received 53 COVID-19 positive lab reports from October 10 - 12. Forty-seven (47) of those individuals are related to Tanglewood Manor and Memory Gardens, two staff members and 45 residents. Four residents were reported positive on Saturday with an additional six on Sunday, prompting the testing of all residents in the Tanglewood facilities on October 11.

"Tanglewood is in the process of notifying the families of all of those who have tested positive for COVID-19," said Christine Schuyler, Chautauqua County Public Health Director. "While most individuals have no or very mild symptoms, eight residents from Tanglewood and two from Memory Gardens have been hospitalized for mild to moderate symptoms."

The New York State Department of Health licenses and monitors all long-term care facilities in the state and has been leading the disease investigation at Tanglewood and Memory Gardens. In conjunction with the state and facility administration, the county health department is conducting contact tracing. "Facility administration is working collaboratively with state and local health officials to ensure that infection control measures are in place," said Schuyler. "The facilities have designated COVID-19 areas of their buildings and are taking additional precautions to further protect their residents and staff." The County Health Department, in conjunction with the Chautauqua County Office of Emergency Services and the New York State Department of Health, is continuing its COVID-19 drive-thru testing clinics. The testing clinics will be held in the east parking lot off of Peacock Street behind the Hall R. Clothier Building at the County's Mayville campus from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the days listed below:

- October 13-15;
- October 20-22; and
- October 27-29.

COVID-19 testing is available to anybody who wants to be tested. Testing is free. Appointments are required; walk-in testing is not available. You can make an appointment by calling 1-866-604-6789 during business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

At the clinic, people who are signed up to get the test will have their information verified, be swabbed, and then may leave. Health Department staff will run the tests, and contact patients with their results and appropriate education within two hours. Symptomatic individuals should plan to isolate until results are received.

"Pandemic fatigue is real and we must stay alert," said Schuyler. "Please take care of yourself, your loved ones, and everyone around you by continuing to practice social distancing, wearing face coverings, washing hands and frequently touched surfaces often, and staying home if you're sick. Influenza season is now also upon us and these same precautions will help prevent the spread of influenza viruses. While a COVID-19 vaccine isn't available yet, the flu vaccine is readily available for everyone 6 months age or older and the best way to prevent influenza."

Stop the spread of COVID-19: Wear a mask; maintain a social distance of 6 feet; wash your hands often.

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