

CUYAHOGA COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

RESOLUTION No. 2020-143

A RESOLUTION TO IMPLEMENT A COVID-19 STAY-AT-HOME HEALTH ADVISORY EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 18, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 17, 2020.

WHEREAS, Cuyahoga County is experiencing a dramatic increase in the number of SARS-CoV-2 virus (COVID-19) cases, and

WHEREAS, an unprecedented recent surge of severely ill patients requiring hospitalization documents COVID-19 disease severity and concerns with diminished local hospital bed capacity, and

WHEREAS, the positivity rate for COVID-19 testing at Cuyahoga County hospital facilities has increased to 15% as of November 13th and continues to rise rapidly, and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health reported 50 COVID-19 fatalities during the first two weeks of November, and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health has reported between 500 and 600 new COVID-19 cases a day over the past week and modeling data from Case Western Reserve University indicates that new daily case reports could rise to 1,000-2,000 cases a day across Cuyahoga County in the coming weeks, and

WHEREAS, Ohio Governor DeWine has instituted a statewide 21-day curfew beginning Thursday, November 19, and

WHEREAS, additional guidance, advisement, warning and intervention is warranted to mitigate the dramatic increase in COVID-19 cases and to preserve remaining hospital capacity, and

WHEREAS, it is more important than ever to follow guidance from local, state, and federal officials on how to slow the spread of the COVID-19 disease, and

WHEREAS, taking the steps listed below is critical to preventing the future spread of the virus, protecting the lives of our residents and their loved ones, and preserving our acute and other healthcare services and capacity, and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health is focused on keeping the public informed in regard to all matters affecting the health of the residents of our health district,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, Ohio:

SECTION 1. Stay-At-Home Advisory

A. General Advisory Guidance

Beginning on Wednesday, November 18, 2020, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health advises all residents to stay at home to the greatest extent possible due to the rapid rise of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in the county. Residents are advised to only leave your home to go to work or school, or for essential needs such as seeking medical care, purchasing essential items from a grocery store or pharmacy, picking up prepared food, or receiving deliveries.

Additionally, residents are strongly advised to:

- a) Avoid traveling in and out of the State of Ohio
- b) Forgo having guests in their homes or residences during the upcoming holiday season.

B. Adherence to All Current Orders

All orders set forth by Governor Mike DeWine, the Ohio Department of Health, Cuyahoga County, and local municipalities shall continue to be enforced and adhered to by all residents.

C. Advisory on Indoor and Outdoor Meetings and Social Events

Any public or private gathering, meeting or social event occurring outside of a residence or living unit shall be limited to no more than ten (10) individuals. This applies to both indoor and outdoor events. Parties, receptions, celebrations, and other similar events should be postponed until after this current surge of COVID-19 transmission in the community. Furthermore, banquet facilities, rental halls and houses of worship are required to continue to implement all virus transmission prevention protocols and are advised to limit the number of individuals in attendance to ensure safe distancing at all regular services, receptions and events such as weddings or funerals. These facilities are subject to all sector specific requirements and must operate in a manner consistent with all current state orders.

D. Private Gatherings

Residents are strongly advised not to conduct or attend any indoor gatherings with guests who are not members of their household in a home or place of residence. A virtual gathering can be organized to interact with extended family members and friends during this current surge of COVID-19 transmission in the community.

E. Response to Illness and Exposure – Isolation and Quarantine

Residents that are exhibiting any signs and symptoms of COVID-19 must shelter in their place of residence. They shall not go to their workplace or congregate setting and shall only leave their place of residence to seek necessary clinical care, or for essential life sustaining needs, such as obtaining medicine or food. They should take extra precautions if leaving their residence for essential purposes to help minimize the potential for virus transmission.

COVID-19 symptoms include, but are not limited to, a new onset of fever, cough, shortness of breath, congestion or runny nose, sore throat, a new loss of taste or smell, body aches, or unusual fatigue.

Residents diagnosed with COVID-19 by a laboratory test conducted by a medical provider must isolate for ten (10) days from the date of their symptom onset, or from the date of test collection if they experienced no symptoms. The isolation should continue until you are no longer experiencing symptoms. In the home, sick or infected individuals should separate themselves from others by staying in a specific “sick room” or area, and use a separate bathroom, if available.

Residents that have been identified as a contact to an individual diagnosed with COVID-19 should quarantine for one full incubation period (14 days) from the date of last contact. Individuals in quarantine should stay home, separate from others, monitor their health, and follow all instructions from their local health department.

Residents who are either confirmed positive or a close contact should not wait to hear from the health department and immediately follow the guidance as described. Information about isolation and quarantine can be found on the [Ohio Department of Health](#) or [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) websites.

F. Employers and Schools

Employers are strongly encouraged to identify and accommodate as many employees as possible to work from home during this time. All businesses and local governments are advised to transition as many transactions and functions

as possible to an online format. Businesses must continue to follow all guidance and meet the requirements in pertinent state orders. Universities and public and private K-12 schools that are currently implementing a hybrid or full in-person protocol are advised to transition to online remote learning after the Thanksgiving holiday.

SECTION 2. Effective Date

This Advisory shall go into effect on November 18, 2020 and shall remain in place until 12:01 am on December 17, 2020, which is a total of 28 days and represents two consecutive incubation periods (28 days) of the SARS-CoV-2 virus (COVID-19). This Advisory may be rescinded, modified or extended by the Board as deemed appropriate to assist in the Board's response to COVID-19.

SECTION 3. Board Resolution

This Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an orderly meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board that resulted in such formal action were conducted in meetings open to the public and in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.