



Public Health Administration

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES FIRST COVID-19 DEATH IN BUTTE COUNTY

BUTTE COUNTY, Calif. – Butte County Public Health (BCPH) is announcing the first death from COVID-19 in the county. BCPH expresses its sincere condolences to the person's family and friends. The person who passed away while hospitalized, was over 65 years of age and experienced multiple underlying health conditions.

The case investigation for this person's COVID-19 illness suggests this was a community acquired infection. No specific place or event was identified as the source of their infection.

It continues to be critical that individuals and organizations take action to slow the spread of the virus by following all applicable guidance and recommendations from the Public Health Department, and carefully reviewing new recommendations and direction as it is issued.

"I'm very sad to announce that we've lost one of our community members to this illness. This news hits us hard," stated Danette York, Director of Butte County Public Health. "This COVID-19 pandemic is a historic public health challenge. Our top priority continues to be protecting the health of our community."

Residents should take action to protect themselves, their family and their community. Prevent the spread of COVID-19 by:

- Washing hands often
- Avoid touching your face
- Maintaining a minimum of six feet of distance between others
- Wearing a face covering when away from home and in contact with individuals who are not part of their household
- Limit non-essential travel
- Avoid gatherings
- Avoid sick people
- Stay home if you are sick

Community spread poses an even higher threat to people in increased risk categories. Those individuals should continue to stay home as much as possible to limit their exposure to the virus. People at increased risk include:

- All Adults over 65 years old
- All persons with chronic health conditions, such as: heart disease, diabetes and lung disease

Get tested for COVID-19:

- **Chico: OptumServe Specimen Collection Site**, located at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds, open Monday through Friday, 7 am to 7 pm. Testing is free to anyone and you do not have to be symptomatic to qualify. Register online: <https://lhi.care/covidtesting>

- **Oroville: CVS Pharmacy No-Cost / Drive-thru Testing (supervised self-testing)**, 850 Oro Dam Blvd. To register online: www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing?icid=poct-covid19-mc-clinicvisit-tab-link
- **Ampla Health in Chico, Oroville and Gridley.** Testing is offered from 1-3 pm daily.

Stay informed about COVID-19:

- Butte County Public Health: www.buttecounty.net/publichealth
- Butte County Reopens: www.buttecounty.net/buttereopens
- California COVID-19 website: www.covid19.ca.gov

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