

Our Vision: Healthy People in Healthy Communities
Adams, Clay, Nuckolls and Webster Counties

For Immediate Release: April 27, 2020
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13 new cases in South Heartland; new district total is 149

Hastings, Neb – Local health officials reported thirteen (13) new cases in South Heartland Health District, 12 in Adams County and one (1) in Clay County. This brings the total number of cases in the 4-county health district to 149, including 140 in Adams County, six (6) in Clay County, three (3) in Webster County, and zero (0) in Nuckolls County.

Clay County:

- 1 female in her 20s

Adams County:

- 9 females (1 her 50s, 1 in her 60s, 2 in their 70s, 2 in their 80s, 3 in their 90s)
- 3 males (3 in their 20s)

South Heartland District Health Department (SHDHD) continues to conduct contact investigations for positive individuals who live in South Heartland counties.

The National Guard tested 136 people today at a limited testing event in Hastings. There will be a second day of testing on Tuesday (April 28). The testing is for health care workers, responders, critical infrastructure personnel and vulnerable or at risk individuals. The test results will provide an opportunity to determine the spread of the virus in some of our critical infrastructure sectors and will help us to understand level of the virus in the community in general.

The testing event was a resource shared with South Heartland District Health Department through the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

SHDHD is encouraging South Heartland residents to participate in the Governor's TestNebraska program, an initiative to increase the rate of COVID-19 testing so Nebraskans can have better access to testing and help curb the spread of COVID-19. Bever said the first step is to go to the testnebraska.com website to complete a health assessment to determine your current risk for COVID-19.

SHDHD executive director Michele Bever said the health department recommends that employees wear masks at worksites where there could be frequent or close interaction with customers. She encourages employers to reach out to the health department or their county emergency managers to learn more about providing masks for their employees.

“In addition, all of us should be wearing cloth masks when we visit grocery stores, pharmacies, doctor's offices, convenience stores, farm and garden stores, home improvement stores, and any other location where it might be difficult to stay 6 feet apart from other people,” she said.

South Heartland District case counts by county are updated daily on SHDHD's COVID webpage: <https://southheartlandhealth.org/public-health-data/corona-virus.html>. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) provides daily updates to Nebraska's coronavirus COVID-19 cases on their Data Dashboard at <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Coronavirus>.