

**TO:** All Nemaha County Hospital Team Members

**FROM:** Marty Fattig

**DATE:** August 13, 2020

**RE:** Daily COVID-19 Update

Good morning and thanks for reading this update. The Southeast District Health Department issued a press release on Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, announcing that there have been twelve additional cases of COVID-19 discovered in the district. Nine of the cases were in Nemaha County, two were in Otoe County and two were in Otoe County. The total number of cases in each county in the district are listed below.

I am very concerned about the dramatic increase in the number of cases of COVID-19 in Nemaha County. Back in March when we had two cases identified in the county we locked things down and we got things back under control. So what do we do now that there are forty-one cases in our county? Controlling the spread of this virus is up to you. How you choose to behave will determine whether this out-of-control spread of the virus continues.

There is an article in the Lincoln Journal Star today reporting on the rise in the number of cases across the state in counties that had had little spread until recently. Almost all of the new cases can be traced to parties and bars. People, we know better!

We, as hospital employees, should be the ones that set the example for proper behavior when we are out in public. We should be the ones that are always wearing our masks and social distancing. We should not participate in high-risk behavior, such as being in bars or restaurants where no one is social distancing.

I am of the opinion that we should lock things down again in our county. I doubt that the county will take that approach but we can accomplish the same thing without a mandate. Simply do what you know is the right thing to do. Wear a mask, wash your hands, social distance and stay home whenever possible. Don't attend indoor parties and social events.

As of 9:00 this morning there were 20,666,156 cases in the world. Yesterday there were 20,372,619. There have been 750,371 deaths. Yesterday there had been 743,344 deaths.

In the United States there are now 5,201,233 positive cases, 166,118 deaths and 63,731,305 people that have been tested. Yesterday there were 5,141,879 cases, 165,545 deaths and 63,252,257 people that had been tested. There were 59,354 new

cases diagnosed in the U.S. yesterday and 573 deaths. A rise in deaths always lags behind a rise in cases.

In Nebraska there are now 29,244 cases and there have been 356 deaths. Yesterday there had been 29,030 positive cases and 351 deaths. 214 new confirmed cases have been identified since yesterday and 76 of the new cases were in Douglas County. 308,462 people have been tested in the state. Yesterday 305,732 people had been tested. We now have had forty-one confirmed cases in Nemaha County, nine in Pawnee County, twenty-five in Richardson County, fourteen in Johnson County and fifty-four in Otoe County. These are the numbers of cases in each county as reported by the Southeast District Health Department. 11,608 of the Nebraska cases are in Douglas County. There have now been 1,755 confirmed cases in Hall County, 968 cases in Dawson County and 1,931 cases in Dakota County. There are now 93 cases in Gage County and 3,358 cases in Lancaster County. There have been 143 positive cases and one death in the Southeast District Health Department area.

Thanks for all you do for us! Be kind to each other!