

Jeff Boer

From: Brian Ledley <bledley@pmhnet.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2020 10:40 PM
To: staff@pmhnet.com
Subject: [STAFF] COVID-19 Updates

Good evening everyone,

A few updates from the CPTF:

1. With a confirmed case of COVID-19, Pulaski County has implemented its Incident Command Center to combat the pandemic. Erin Bonnell, ED Nurse Manager, Emergency Preparedness, serves as the hospital's liaison to that group. I will be assisting their Public Information Officer, serving as Deputy, to help ensure we have a unified message going out to the community.
2. While the Health Department and the Pulaski County Incident Command Center will take the lead on the community effort to combat COVID-19, PMH still plays a vital role in that endeavor, both as a healthcare provider and a source of information. We have heard reports of PMH staff members attending parties, large gatherings, and generally not practicing social distancing or wearing masks out in public (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>). It is important to remember that even though you may be "off the clock," you are representing PMH 24/7. The community will look to us to lead by example – and we do need to practice what we preach. Please keep those social distancing best practices (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>) in mind before making decisions to go out or socialize. The Easter Holiday is usually a time for family gatherings and enjoying the welcome of spring. The CPTF would ask that you please not have any large family gatherings or Easter parties. We know we are asking everyone to make a sacrifice, but we are asking the community to stay at home - we should too. If you have any questions about this, please reach out to a Task Force team member.
3. With regards to exposure of COVID-19 to a staff member, the Associate Health Nurse, Vicki White, members of the COVID-19 Pandemic Medical Task Force, the associate, and consulted leadership will decide and recommend a proper course of action for that associate. As with many aspects of this disease, there is no set way to respond. We will, however, do what is best for that associate and all of our associates. Keeping our staff safe and healthy will always be our top priority.
4. Members of the community are making additional clips and headbands for those individuals who are having their elastic straps from their face masks rub the back of their ears raw. We have some supply of these clips and headbands. Please see Linda Webb or Lyndsey Ball for more information.
5. Vicki White has asked that as your surgical mask begins to degrade over time, and you start using a new mask – to please save your elastic straps and metal nose piece from your old mask. We want to reuse that material is at all possible for hand made masks or to repair any other mask we can use.

Thanks,

Brian

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