



# Hunterdon County Department of Health



Karen DeMarco, MPH  
Health Officer/Director

[www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/health.html](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/health.html)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hunterdon County Health Officer Karen DeMarco has released the following statement:

Saturday evening, the Hunterdon County Health Department was notified of a positive result for COVID-19 in a 54-year-old female Hunterdon County resident. The resident was treated at the Hunterdon Medical Center and is currently recovering in isolation at home.

The Hunterdon County Health Department is conducting a full public health investigation, in close coordination with the Hunterdon Healthcare system. Any individuals who may have had close contact with the patient are receiving notification by the Health Department and are asked to self-quarantine for 14-days, in accordance with guidelines from CDC and the NJDOH.

The protection of the health, safety, and privacy of all Hunterdon County residents is of paramount importance. As is common-practice for communicable disease investigations, the Health Department is instructed to not release the home municipality of the positive case. Individuals at risk for developing illness are contacted directly. It is recommended that household members self-quarantine for fourteen days from the date the confirmed case began developing illness. Any individuals who had close contact with the individual; neighbors, co-workers or others will be contacted by the Hunterdon County Department of Health.

Public health investigations are conducted routinely and successfully by the County Department of Health. Public health statute requires the Department to conduct case investigations for over 70 different reportable diseases in the state of New Jersey, and the Health Department works to control outbreaks of infectious disease regularly.

Health professionals advise that the public should not be alarmed by the positive test result – officials have expected and planned for positive cases in Hunterdon County. As testing becomes more available, more positive cases expect to be identified.

Residents are encouraged to continue to follow social distancing, practice every day practical actions to stay healthy from respiratory viruses, including frequent hand-washing and avoiding those who are ill. Addition, the Health Department urges residents to stay up to date on the developing outbreak by consulting reliable sources of information, including:

Hunterdon County Health Department <http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/coronavirus.html>

The Hunterdon Medical Center Hotline 908-788-6440

New Jersey Department of Health <https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

The Center for Disease Control <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

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