



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Boone County
Health Department**

Boone County Health Department
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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Boone County Health Department Announces First Death from
COVID-19**

BOONE COUNTY— Boone County Health Department is saddened to report that a Boone County resident in their 80s has died from complications of COVID-19. The family gives permission to release the gender of their loved one by sharing this statement with the community, “She was a brave soul who will be missed greatly by her family and friends.”

"I am deeply troubled by the news that we've lost one of our own: the first COVID-19 related death in Boone County," says Amanda Mehl, Public Health Administrator. "Boone County is with this patient's family and loved ones in mourning her loss and honoring her memory."

The Boone County Health Department previously announced that this resident had tested positive for COVID-19. The number of confirmed cases in Boone County is now seven.

This virus continues to spread in our county. Unfortunately, this death reinforces the importance of actions the public can take to protect themselves and prevent the spread in the community. Healthcare partners and first responders in Boone County have been in close communication with the Boone County Health Department and our regional colleagues to monitor, respond, and help limit the spread of the disease.

- More -

What the public can slow the spread of COVID-19 by:

- STAY CALM: You are not alone in this; your community is here to support you. Talk to your friends and family and let them know if you are having concerns.
- STAY APART: Keep at least six feet away from others including while shopping. Avoid the lines by taking advantage of pick-up and delivery services for groceries and other goods.
- STAY PUT: Stay home, and only go out when essential (buying groceries, pick-up medicine, etc.).

By doing these three things, you are not only protecting yourself but those in our community who are at greater risk for contracting this virus, including older adults and those with underlying health conditions.

For more information about COVID-19, and the latest updates and guidance, please visit the IDPH and CDC websites at:

<http://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

For general questions regarding the COVID-19, please call our information line at 815-547-8561 (8:00 to 4:30 M-F) or email us at: COVID19@boonehealth.org

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About The Boone County Health Department

The Boone County Health Department is a local health department committed to serving the health needs of its almost 54,000 residents. Established in 1966, we promote and protect the health of the people and the communities in Boone County, right here, where they live, work, learn and play.