

Urgent News Release #19

Richland County Emergency Management

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For immediate release: **April 3, 2020**

RICHLAND COUNTY COMMUNITY PARTNERS RESPOND TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Richland Center, WI: A virtual Emergency Operations Center meeting was held again this morning to share information between Richland County officials and community partners in a joint response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A representative from Congressman Ron Kind's Office attended today's virtual briefing and extended his support to the Richland County community. Congressional Aide, Tim Hundt can be reached at tim.hundt@mail.house.gov or (202) 593-1134.

Public Health Manager/Local Health Officer Rose Kohout announced that as of 2:00pm Thursday, April 2nd the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) confirmed that in the state of Wisconsin there were 1,730 confirmed cases for COVID-19, 20,317 have tested negative, there were 31 deaths, and 461 hospitalizations due to COVID-19. Of those that tested positive for COVID-19 in the state of Wisconsin, 27% have been hospitalized. There are now 3 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Richland County and 129 have tested negative at this time.

The Richland Hospital Coronavirus Hotline remains available 24 hours/day and patients should call (608) 604-9953 BEFORE coming to the hospital. The Richland Hospital continues to offer COVID-19 testing out of their “Respiratory Illness Evaluation” drive-thru service every day from 8am-5pm for Tier 1 and Tier 2 priorities only.

Chief Billy Jones announced that the Richland Center Police Department office will be closed to the public starting Monday, April 6th in an effort to limit the potential for staff exposure to COVID-19. All incoming calls will be routed to the Richland County Sheriff’s Department until further notice.

Emergency Management Director, Darin Gudgeon extended a sincere THANK YOU to those who have been working diligently to make handmade masks for our frontline healthcare workers. The Richland Hospital, Pine Valley Community Village, and Schmitt Woodland Hills continue to accept donations of handmade masks from the community.

For the most up-to-date COVID-19 information, follow Richland County Health & Human Services on Facebook or consult the following websites:

- ❖ Richland County:
<https://covid.co.richland.wi.us>
- ❖ The Greater Richland Area Chamber of Commerce
www.gorcchamber.com
- ❖ Wisconsin Department of Health Services:
www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19
- ❖ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/

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