

Press Release

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Fourth COVID-19 Case in Maniilaq Service Area

June 5, 2020 – A resident of Kotzebue has tested positive for COVID-19 making it the 4th case in the Maniilaq service area. We believe the 4th case is due to community spread from a previous case. We are therefore advising all residents of Kotzebue to take extra precautions to prevent further spread of the virus. This means **staying home, practicing social distancing, washing your hands frequently, and avoiding large gatherings**. If you must go out wear a cloth face mask and keep a safe distance from others (at least 6 ft). Since it could be difficult for kids to stay six feet apart while playing, we recommend limiting interactions with other households.

Maniilaq is in contact with the State of Alaska Section of Epidemiology to ensure precautions are taken to protect anyone who may have been in close contact with the individual. Anyone contacted should self-isolate for 14 days and contact the COVID-19 Hotline at 833-442-7015 if any symptoms develop.

If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as a dry cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider for medical advice or call Maniilaq's COVID-19 Hotline at 833-442-7015. The following symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Please continue to follow the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations for protecting yourself against COVID-19 by practicing social distancing and washing your hands frequently. More information on protecting yourself can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html>

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Kotzebue Qikiqtaruk, Ambler Ivisaappaat, Buckland Nunatchiaq, Deering Ipnatchiaq, Kiana Katyaak, Kivalina Kivaliniq, Kobuk Laugviik, Noatak Nautaaq, Noorvik Nuurvik, Point Hope Tikigaaq, Selawik Akuligaaq, Shungnak Isinnaq