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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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For Immediate Release

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Long Beach Island Reported one (1) New Covid-19 Case in the last Two Weeks

I want to highlight and commend our community's efforts and compliance to social-distancing, it was most certainly an effective component in preventing virus transmission. Adhering to the stay at home order and strict social distancing, apart from an initial community disease cluster, there has been no widespread community transmission on Long Beach Island. However, Long Beach Island has been impacted with cases of Covid-19, as the pandemic reached our shore community. Sadly, 5 individuals, some of our senior community members succumbed to this virus and we offer our sincerest condolences to their families and friends. The first confirmed case was on March 18th, 2020. To date the island community reported 41 individuals with laboratory confirmed Covid-19, 11 of which were identified as Healthcare workers.

To date 33 individuals have recovered and the remainder are in the process of recovering. Our Public Health Nurses have investigated all cases and discharged individuals from isolation based public health criteria. In connection with these cases more than 128 individuals deemed close contacts have been quarantined. Those quarantined could become ill, some did and would have subsequently spread the virus.

Our state and local statistics have shown a significant disparity of health outcomes for those of older age and health status. In New Jersey, for those Covid-19 total cases in the age ranges, 30-49, 50-64, 65-79, and 80+ hospitalization rates are 13.6%, 24.7%, 50.8% and 60.4% respectively. The majority of those within the same age ranges for Covid-19 hospitalizations report pre-existing conditions such as hypertension, obesity, metabolic diseases (most common is diabetes), chronic lung and cardiovascular diseases.

As stay at home restrictions will begin to relax, individuals will be able to move around, and yet our county and region remains with a significant amount of virus activity. Our local community will not have the same protection as the seasonal isolation afforded us and we remain to be a susceptible population. If you are a high-risk individual either in age and/or pre-existing condition(s), remain vigilant with social distancing, avoid any unwell person and practice good hand hygiene. These recommendations should be reinforced until Covid-19 virus is undetectable in our region and/or there are effective therapy(s) or vaccine. The remainder of the population should also be concerned with our most vulnerable and use good judgement when interacting with those individuals.