CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 10, 2020*

**Current Vigo County Surveillance:**

**General**

* **Total Confirmed Cases:** 0
* **Total Recovered Cases:** 0
* **Total Deaths: 0**

**Hospitals**

**Regional Hospital**: Starting Monday, March 9, visitors and patients will be directed to use specific entrances to allow visitors to be screened. Patients will be limited to 2 visitors at a time. If a patient is displaying symptoms such as fever or respiratory distress, measures will be taken to respond appropriately to the patient’s needs and limit exposure to other individuals at Terre Haute Regional Hospital.

**Union Health**: Any patient coming in for outpatient services; ie: lab work, imaging, etc., please arrive at least 15 minutes early. Starting Monday, March 9, 2020, new guidelines have implemented a screening process for all visitors on camp. Any patient coming in for outpatient services; ie: lab work, imaging, etc., please arrive at least 15 minutes early. Starting Monday, March 9, 2020, new guidelines have implemented a screening process for all visitors on campus.

As a reminder, patients and visitors can only enter at Union West, Building 2, Main Entrance & Union East, Building 1, Main Entrance from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. No visitors will be permitted after 9 p.m.

If you are visiting the Union Hospital Clinton facility, enter through the Emergency Department.

As a reminder, patients and visitors can only enter at Union West, Building 2, Main Entrance & Union East, Building 1, Main Entrance from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. No visitors will be permitted after 9 p.m.

If you are visiting the Union Hospital Clinton facility, enter through the Emergency Department.

Union Hospital and Union Hospital Clinton continue to monitor the status of the COVID-19 outbreak very closely. We appreciate everyone’s patience during this time. Access to both hospitals will continue to be limited.

Visiting hours for Union Hospital and Union Hospital Clinton are 5am to 8pm.

**Higher Education**

Indiana State University: Indiana State University’s latest information for campus and the public is on a web page: [www.indstate.edu/covid-19](http://www.indstate.edu/covid-19).

Rose Hulman: <https://www.rose-hulman.edu/about-us/community-and-public-services/health/index.html>

Saint Mary of the Woods: <https://www.smwc.edu/offices-resources/offices/health-services-clinic/covid-19/>

**VCSC**

The Vigo County School Corporation sanitizes surfaces daily during flu season. While Coronavirus is not the flu, we will continue these measures as Coronavirus continues to spread, and we will reinforce the above guidelines with our own staff.

The Vigo County School Corporation is working with the Vigo County Health Department and area hospitals in the event of coronavirus cases in Vigo County. We have students and staff with a range of complex medical conditions. Any potential action we take if Vigo County experiences a case of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) must consider all staff and students.

We are taking extra precautions to:

o   Sanitize our buildings daily. Custodians have been directed to use a high-quality peroxide-based sanitizer and spraying the sanitizer on surfaces and letting it dry, rather than wiping it off.

o   Sanitize our buses. Our buses will have sanitizer bottles and drivers will be instructed to sanitize the buses daily.

o   Take time for hygiene. Our schools are providing extra time for handwashing and are providing hand sanitizer throughout buildings.

o   Teach good hygiene. Students, especially in elementary school, are discussing proper handwashing, sneezing, and coughing techniques.

o   Monitor health conditions. Our schools are providing daily updates to our nurses regarding number and types of absences. We are enacting a health care lockout to keep our children safe. We will begin asking these questions of all absent students, and a version of these questions for building visitors:

§  Question 1: Does your child have a fever?

§  Question 2: Is your child experiencing shortness of breath?

§  Question 3: Has your child had a cough for a prolonged period of time?

·       If a case of novel coronavirus is present in Vigo County, we will pause attendance policies and incentive programs for students.

·       If a case of novel coronavirus is present in a school staff member or student, we will work with the Vigo County Health Department to determine when students should return to school. We are developing an academic plan to respond in the case of a prolonged school closure.

·       We will communicate with parents through e-mail and text alerts, our Vigo County School Corporation Facebook, and through media outlets.

**Government**

Vigo EMA: Vigo EMA continues to monitor current COVID 19 status and meet with Community and Response Partners. EMA will provide liaison relationship with State and Federal Agencies.

**Chamber of Commerce**