Mayors and Managers Meeting Notes from 3.23.2020


DuPage County: Chairman Dan Cronin, Sheryl Markay, Chief Policy & Program Officer

DuPage County Health Department: Karen Ayala, Executive Director; Dr. Rashmi Chugh, Medical Officer; Dennis Brennan, Legislative Manager; Chris Hoff, Director of Community Health; Penny Chanez, Executive Asst.

*Purpose of the call today with Mayors and Managers is to address updated case counts, testing questions, Governor’s emergency declaration and communication.*

Chairman Cronin provided introductory remarks emphasizing the challenging times we are experiencing, that staff are working deliberatively and around the clock. Chairman Cronin commended public servants for their work and stressed that communication is important for all and to see the County as a resource. Emphasized not to use social media as a resource for information.

**COVID-19 Update on Illinois and DuPage County Cases**

Director, Karen Ayala introduced the Health Department’s Medical Director, Dr. Chugh who provided the following case updates

- Illinois cases to date:
  - 1049 cases
  - 9 deaths
  - Ages range from infant – 90 plus years old
  - Of note - 1 week ago there were 93 cases in Illinois
  - DuPage has 79 cases

**COVID-19 Testing Updates**

Dr. Chugh shared the prioritization for testing and updates on current testing:

- Priority given to first responders, which is a multiple disciplinary group that includes fire, police, healthcare workers; hospitalized individuals; clusters of illness within congregate settings i.e: long term care (LTC) facilities, correction facilitates, homeless centers
• IDPH results are being received between 2-4 days, currently inundated with approx. 600 tests per
day with capacity at around 300 tests
• Receiving results from commercial labs
• LTC clusters remain stable in DuPage County

**Lab confirmed individuals and return to work measures:**

• **NEW** Individual must have no subjected measure of fever, or respiratory symptoms or
cough, or sore throat. **The key change is the word (or)** Individual must be seven days fever free
or 72 hours whichever is longer.
• Assume COVID-19 when an individual presents with any of these symptoms. Anyone who is sick
needs to stay home.
• Healthcare restrictions, individuals are required to wear a face mask 14 days after illness onset
• Notification of results – hospitals are responsible of notifying first responders within 12 hours of
a positive result
• Full guidelines can be found on the IDPH website
• 3 sites are conducting testing in DuPage County – Walmart in Northlake,
• Elmhurst Fire is helping at the Northlake location. Contact :Tom Freeman
• Director Ayala added the need to preserve testing for individuals with more severe symptoms
• PPE – set up within DCHD to take calls from municipalities and business in need - risk
stratification
• 28 municipalities today received PPE for first responders.

**Questions & Answers**

Gary Grasso – acknowledged HIPPA protections, but expressed frustration on the lack of information as
to whether any residents have been to a nursing home reporting cases. What can be presumed as
happening at the locations where there are confirmed cases?

Response: Dr. Chugh – closer and frequent monitoring of vital signs of residents is occurring

Mayor Grasso also announced that Burr Ridge began a drive through tent testing operation today, with
approx. 10 -15 tests to be administered a day.

Darien – questioned Burr Ridge’s testing site and if these types of testing sites are authorized by IDPH or
the county. Response, Director Ayala: The Health Department and County are not responsible.

Mayor Grasso responded that the organization conducting the testing is affiliated with Advocate and can
screen those who are symptomatic to determine the need for testing.

Itasca – confirmed the change in employee symptoms for returning to work and questioned how is a
non first responder health care worker tested?

Response: Dr Chugh - Awaiting response from IDPH on this question and will share once information is
received.
**COVID-19 Update Governor’s Declaration**

Legislative Manager for the Health Department, Dennis Brennan provided an overview of the Governor’s emergency declaration and reviewed the following:

- Updates of government essential services
- Executive order: Stay at home order by the Governor for those who can work from home
- 6-foot social distancing requirements
- Non-essential business operations and closures
- Municipalities do have the right to enforce, but most places are trying voluntary compliance
- IDPH provided guidance for childcare providers and daycare facilities on closures and the need to provide services for essential staff
- Declaration can be found on the Health Department website
- There are also FAQ’s on the Health Department website

Diane McGinley, Mayor of Glen Ellyn, expressed frustration over the quick announcements from the Governor’s Office that do not provide notice to the municipalities, which are finding out with the general public. Chairman Cronin noted the speed of the announcements and said he would pass along any critique that members wanted him to share with the Governor’s office. He also noted that Brad Cole of the Illinois Municipal League was at the news conference announcing the “stay at home order”.

**COVID-19 Update: Communication Measures**

Director Ayala provided information on communication pieces provided by the Health Department.

- Review updated guidance posted on dupagehealth.org
- 4 documents of importance on the site include
  - Who should I call?
  - What to do if you have symptoms
  - What to do if potentially exposed
  - What to do if you are confirmed
- Weekly newsletter is being provided with updated information. Feedback is appreciated
- The Health Department will begin increased advertising from a digital standpoint
- The Health Department is using social media platforms Facebook and Twitter. Please amplify this messaging using your social media platforms.
- Please share givingdupage.org as a resource for those seeking to volunteer

Chairman Cronin thanked everyone for their participation and recommended to continue these calls. Sheryl Markay will work with Suzette Quintell to arrange future calls.