



Mayors and Managers Meeting Notes from 6.1.2020

Municipalities Participating: Addison, Bensenville, Burr Ridge, Darien, Glendale Heights, Hinsdale, Itasca, Lisle, Naperville, Oakbrook, Oakbrook Terrace, Villa Park, Warrenville, Westmont, Wheaton S. Quintell – DuPage Mayors and Managers

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

DuPage County Health Department Participants: Sam Tornatore, Board of Health President; Karen Ayala, Executive Director; Rashmi Chugh, Medical Officer; Dennis Brennan, Legislative Manager; Chris Hoff, Director of Community Health Resources; Penny Chanez, Executive Asst.

Purpose of the call today with Mayors and Managers is to address updated case counts, Community and business updates and guidance. DuPage County Health Department Deputy Incident Commander, Chris Hoff facilitated the meeting.

Executive Director, Karen Ayala:

Welcomed everyone and reviewed the topics to be discussed on the call. Expressed appreciation for everyone's partnership and is interested in any feedback or concerns on the first weekend of the State of Illinois's phase 3 reopening plan.

Chairman Dan Cronin:

Welcomed everyone and expressed his appreciation for the continued efforts of planning and responding to pandemic, while also coping with another crisis which unfolded over the weekend relating to the recent events surrounding the death of George Floyd. Chairman Cronin shared that he spoke with the Director of Unity Partnership who held an event in Naperville for a call to action. Mr. Cronin added that DuPage County supports the people's right to assemble and peacefully protest and condemned the actions that led to Mr. Floyd's death, however committing criminal acts is not acceptable.

Chairman Cronin also shared that he is proud of the DuPage County law enforcement team and to date over 700 law enforcement officers have been trained in crisis and de-escalation techniques. The Chairman added that he appreciates participating in this call every week and the ability to collaborate in these extremely challenging times.

COVID-19 UPDATE ON ILLINOIS AND DUPAGE COUNTY CASES

The Health Department's Medical Officer, Dr. Chugh provided the following case updates and remarks.

Nationally United States confirmed cases are close to 1.8 million
Deaths at 104,399

- State of Illinois
 - 120,260 lab-confirmed cases
 - 5,390 lab-confirmed deaths
- DuPage County
 - 7,717 lab-confirmed cases
 - 371 lab-confirmed deaths

Dr. Chugh and Chris Hoff provided information on next steps and answers to questions relating to the reopening of DuPage County to assist Mayors and Managers with making informed decisions. The following points were covered:

Moving from Phase 3 to Phase 4 of the State's reopening plan will include the Health Department monitoring current trends line indicators and future trend lines as outlined below:

- New cases over time are encouraging indicating a slight downward trend
- Hospitalizations numbers must take into consideration a 1 to 2-week lag in reporting numbers and may not accurately reflect the number of current hospitalizations. Current seven day rolling average indicates a slight downward trend.
- Deaths over time - the Health Department's COVID-19 dashboard indicates a more pronounced peak. Reported deaths have the longest reporting lag with an average of 7-14 days, however indicators still showing a bit of a downward trend.

Monitoring of future case trends will be determined by lab confirmed case numbers and other metrics as follows.

- June 1, 2020 and forward – all new lab confirmed case numbers
- June 10, 2020 and forward – all new hospitalization cases and hospital capacity. Health system capacity at the onset of the virus included hospitals increasing capacity to accommodate cases. As of two weeks ago hospitals decreased capacity to pre COVID numbers to resume normal activity. Review and consideration of any uptick in activity and impact to capacity needs to be considered.
- June 14, 2020 and forward – any new death data from symptom onset to death, which is approx. 16 days.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) is not currently adequate in any hospital and must be a consideration in any future opening plans.

Contact tracing continues to be part of the overall reopening plan.

- Biggest challenge is the sheer volume of cases. COVID-19 case volume in DuPage County residents is approaching 8,000 cases. Typically, the Health Department handles approx. 4,000 cases a year for other communicable diseases.
- Agency staff assigned – normal operations includes 5 full time employees. Currently increased to 70 individuals with more expected to handle case investigation and contact tracing for COVID-19.
- Focus will be on the individual who tested positive and those with close contact to the case, such as household members, intimate partners, and caregivers.

In response to questions surrounding long term care facilities (LTC). Dr. Chugh provided the following information:

- Acknowledged current nursing home staff shortages and an industry norm of staff working at multiple locations. Multiple family members working at a location is also not unusual. While there are no restrictions, there are inherent concerns.

The Health Department is working with long term care facilities to provide a set of recommendations and protocols.

- Current protocols of pre shift and mid shift screenings occurring for all health care staff at LTC facilities
- COVID positive patients are recommended to be treated by dedicated staff.
- Full PPE is recommended to use in units with individuals who tested positive
- Self – isolation for the case and self-quarantine recommended for all family members within a household when one tests positive.
- Difficult to determine point of exposure for LTC residents who tested negative going to a hospital setting for a normal procedure and then testing positive upon return to the LTC environment.

Reopening Guidance

- Phase 3 (5/29/20) – IDPH website contains guidance overview for industries, including toolkits and signage.
- Phase 4 – Per the Governor, the earliest for any region for Phase 4 of the reopening plan is June 26th.
- A new executive order was issued on Friday.
- The Health Department will work with any local law enforcement agency to address any business operating outside the parameters permitted under Phase 3, with an emphasis first on education and cooperation before implementing enforcement measures.
- No changes to Health Department guidance on pools. IDPH provides guidance on pool reopening. Based on information from IDPH in our discussions we are not expecting to see pool openings until Phase 4.

Community- based Testing and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)

Collaborative efforts between Chairman Cronin, Director Ayala and the State of Illinois has resulted in obtaining a community-based testing site in DuPage County.

- Projected to open the end of this week.
- Currently working to get sufficient testing.
- Request to Mayors and Managers to leverage municipal employees to support the testing site.
- PPE – some improvement, still concern on available PPE and the challenges for the health systems. Health Department continues to focus distribution to health care systems and first responders and building a stockpile.

A question was received after the conclusion the meeting and has been included at the end of the meeting notes for reference.

Director Ayala concluded the call at 11:00AM with no further discussion. Participants were encouraged to reach out with any other concerns or questions.

Question:

I'd be interested to know the timeframe for DuPage County providing shelters for people infected with C-19 and/or are considered a member of a vulnerable population who aren't able to physically self-isolate at home.

Answer:

The DuPage County Health Department is currently in the process of transitioning needs for alternate housing—for individuals who are COVID + and/or vulnerable household members to a DuPage County site. Assuring that individuals who test positive for COVID 19 is a critical strategy in containing the disease going forward.

Arrangements for the site are coordinated by the DCHD Team after receiving interest directed to: temphousing@dupagehealth.org. Alternate housing accommodations are typically available for 14 days to individuals who are eligible. Individuals must agree to the guidelines for housing (no visitors, no alcohol/drugs, daily checks and self-monitoring, abide by isolation/quarantine requirements).