

Butler County Briefing – 10/1/2020 – 2:30pm

Public Health Sector:

- Four Corners – Nebraska has had a bigger increase in the last 14 days, sitting at 45,000 total cases, with 478 deaths. Four Corners has had a large increase in case numbers. The last 7 days we have had 91 cases, yesterday was the all time high in one day with 20 new cases. In the last 7 days, York had 25 cases, Seward County had 35, Butler 19, Polk 12. We try to break it down by case per million per day as a guide to show transmission, and Butler has 337 cases per million per day and we want that number at 50 or below. Because of high case counts, we are now utilizing contact tracers from the state. Originally we were getting by with our staff and local contact tracers, but it is too overwhelming that we have to use state tracers. We also have not had the staff to recover people, so our recoveries have been stagnant but we are going to work on that next week. We are seeing an increase of people in hospitals. We are helping community members in planning events if they have a capacity of 500 or more, helping to plan those safely. We are also seeing many cases touching schools, whether it be parents, kids, or teachers. LTCF are ramping up testing, they are having more test run through their facilities which also helps contribute negative results to the positivity rate. Our risk dial was at 1.88 last week, we are resetting it today, so stay tuned to see what that brings and we will be announcing that tomorrow. We still recommend avoiding crowds, wearing face coverings and staying healthy. Even though we are in phase 4, our rates of transmission are high and October will be a pivotal month for us.
- PPE – We received a large shipment yesterday and getting that ready to go today, everything is still going good in that regard, Polk County Health Department is picking up PPE and delivering today so thank you for that. Today is also my last day as ERC here at the health department and I just wanted to say thank you to everyone for being so welcoming and wonderful to work with. My next adventure is taking me to California for a while but I will be back in this area in the future.

Local Government Sector:

- Clayton Keller – City of David City – have had our first staff member test positive so dealing with quarantines at work. October 31st is Trunk or Treat, we have a safety plan for that.

Medical Sector:

- Don Naiberk – 29% of hospital beds in the state are available, only 26% of ICU beds available statewide. It has been around 32-36%. 78% of ventilators available in the state. We hit the highest number of hospitalized patients in the state with 231, since March. Dr. Anthone anticipates that in the next week or two it will fully surpass that. About 75 people are hospitalized in Lincoln with COVID, 50% from Lincoln and 50% from other counties. Ventilators are not being used for COVID near as much, they are figuring out a better treatment. The curve in our area is not flattened, and although we have hospital room available, there is not always the staff or PPE available which makes it difficult. With 1 COVID patient, we could go through

the same PPE in a day that we would normally do in a week. Beds are not the only resources regarding hospital data. We have not had a month go by without a staff member testing positive in our hospital, so we are still emphasizing the importance of mask wearing and other precautions. The numbers are getting scary, it is good we live in an area where we can social distance because we really need to do so. I encourage people to take extra precautions and encourage those around you to do the same.

Business Sector:

- No updates

Education Sector:

- No updates

Faith Community/Non-Profit Sector

- No updates

Questions/Comments:

-

NEXT MEETING October 15th, 2020 – @ 2:30