April 1, 2020

For immediate release:

Today, health officials in conjunction with the Kent County Commissioners are announcing two newly confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Kent County, bringing the official count to five. The residents, one a female individual in her 70's, and the second, a female in her 80's, are currently hospitalized, both with preexisting conditions. Neither has a recent travel history. Kent County Health Department is conducting a contact tracing to determine if anyone had close personal contact with either individual.

The majority of Kent County cases have not had travel history or a known connection with another positive case. This means that there is community spread of COVID-19 in Kent County. With community spread, everyone is at some risk for COVID-19, and everyone is expected to stay at home as much as possible and take precautions. 'Our guidance to the public remains the same,' said William Webb, Health Officer for Kent County, 'Whether we have five confirmed cases or many more, the best way to protect yourself and others is to stay at home unless you need to buy essentials like food or medicine, wash your hands often with soap and water, and keep a distance of at least six feet between yourself and others.'

For more information on how to protect yourself and your family, please visit https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/. Information call centers are also available: Call the 24/7 Maryland Information line at 2-1-1 for general questions related to COVID-19, Call the 24/7 Nurse Call Line established by the University of Maryland Medical System at 1-888-713-0711, or call Kent County Health Department's information line at 410-778-1350.

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