

ADAIR COUNTY CASES CONTINUE UPWARD CLIMB

Kirkville, MO 10/15/20 – As the number of COVID-19 cases continues to rise in Adair County, 1,150 people took advantage of the Adair County Health Department’s annual drive-through flu clinic yesterday at the NEMO Fairgrounds.

On Tuesday, Oct. 13, community partners of the Health Department, including the Kirkville Fire Department and Adair County Ambulance District, received training on setting up and taking down the two new medical surge response shelters purchased by the Northeast Missouri Health Council in partnership with the Adair County Health Department. The shelters were put to use for the first time for the drive-through flu clinic.

“We were really pleased with the turnout of residents seeking flu vaccines,” said Jim LeBaron, administrator of the Adair County Health Department. “Fortunately, we had warm and sunny weather for this clinic, so the shelters were an extra benefit. We now know how great they will be when we attempt to do an event like this during inclement weather,” he said.

The Health Department staff was assisted by area healthcare providers, by nursing students from Truman State University and Moberly Area Community College, and by students at A.T. Still University of Health Sciences.

“We can’t do an event like this without having the boots on the ground of our area healthcare and emergency response partners,” said LeBaron. “I am absolutely grateful to them for their leadership and willingness to tackle whatever needs to be done to serve our residents.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) have strongly recommended that people get the annual flu vaccine this year. Having fewer people suffer from severe symptoms of the seasonal flu helps keep hospital beds open for COVID-19 patients and helps protect healthcare workers. It can also help people from battling both COVID-19 and the seasonal flu.

COVID-19 cases continue to climb in the United States, including quickly increasing numbers in Adair County.

Twelve new cases were confirmed today which brings the year-to-date total to 465. The new cases involve two 20-year-old females and females ages 23, 27, 42, 43, 79 and 85, and

males ages 40, 41, 66 and 70. Two are in the higher education sector and two are in households with a previously confirmed case. There are now 67 active cases and 398 individuals who have left isolation.

All Adair County residents who were hospitalized at Northeast Regional Medical Center have now been discharged; however, there are six COVID-19 patients from other counties at Northeast. Two patients have required use of a ventilator.

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