



# Valdez COVID-19 Unified Command

## NEWS RELEASE # 034

For immediate release: 10/21/2020, 8:00 p.m.

**Valdez, AK** – The community of Valdez received confirmation of two new resident cases of COVID-19 on Wednesday.

One new resident case is an adult with symptoms. The other new resident case is a minor with symptoms. Both are in isolation and following the guidance of their medical providers and public health officials. The contact investigations are complete. The source investigation for both cases remains ongoing. Preliminary investigation indicates a link between each of these cases and other previously announced resident cases.

Additionally, one other resident case was reported as recovered as of Wednesday evening. The term “recovered” in this context means the patient has been released from public health isolation monitoring and is no longer considered contagious. However, the patient may continue to experience negative effects from the disease.

As a community, we must continue making thoughtful and careful decisions as long as COVID-19 remains present in Valdez and beyond. Extra care should be taken when socializing both inside and outside with those not in your household or small social circle.

### Please Help Keep Valdez Safe:

#### Do the 3 W’s

- Wear a cloth face covering
- Watch your distance
- Wash your hands

#### Avoid the 3 C’s

- Crowded places
- Close contact settings
- Confined/enclosed spaces

**Do You Have Even Mild Symptoms?** Please contact your healthcare provider for screening and closely follow their instructions. Remember to call ahead before you go to the doctor’s office, public health clinic, or hospital. The local medical team will continue to provide the best possible care for you and our community.

**Local Testing Options:** Both symptomatic and asymptomatic COVID-19 testing are currently available by appointment only in Valdez. Visit the Valdez Unified Command website ([www.valdezak.gov/COVID-19](http://www.valdezak.gov/COVID-19)) for additional information and to learn more about different local testing options.

**What is a Close Contact?** A close contact is an individual who was within six feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes during their infectious period. Close contacts must quarantine for 14 days to see if they develop symptoms and to prevent possible transmission to additional people. While close contacts cannot test out of quarantine, testing helps determine who else might be at risk. Timeline for testing of close contacts will vary depending upon their exposure date.

**Think You’ve Been Exposed to Someone with COVID-19?** Please contact the Valdez public health nurse (907.835.4612) or your medical provider for guidance. Consider getting tested 5 to 14 days after any possible exposure.

The Valdez Unified Command and public health officials continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 situation. We ask the community to practice compassion and remember that behind every case count number is a person dealing with a difficult diagnosis. We remain committed to providing information, support, and resources for our community.

VALDEZ COVID-19 CASE COUNT					
Last updated 10.21.2020 @ 8:00 p.m.					
	CUMULATIVE CASES TO DATE	ACTIVE CASES	RECOVERED CASES	CUMULATIVE HOSPITALIZATIONS	DEATHS
VALDEZ RESIDENT	26	6	19	1*	1
NON-RESIDENT	28	0	28	1*	0

\*Valdez case hospitalized in ANC.

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Contact: Kate Huber, asst. public information officer, Valdez Unified Command, [PIO@valdezak.gov](mailto:PIO@valdezak.gov), (907) 202-0599