



Valdez COVID-19 Unified Command

NEWS RELEASE # 046

For immediate release: 11/22/2020, 9:00 p.m.

Valdez, AK – The community of Valdez received confirmation of three new resident cases of COVID-19 on Sunday.

The three new resident cases are all adults with symptoms. All three patients are in isolation and following the guidance of their medical providers and public health officials.

The contact investigation for all three cases is complete. Close contacts of all three patients have been notified and are in quarantine. The source investigations remain ongoing. Preliminary source investigation indicates no clear transmission source for any of the patients. Additionally, none of the three new cases appear to be linked to each other or the recent possible exposures within the local K-12 school system.

Two Valdez resident cases are also considered recovered as of Sunday. The term “recovered” in this context means the patient has been released from public health isolation monitoring and is no longer considered contagious. Please note, even following release from isolation, the patient may continue to experience after effects of the disease.

Public health officials continue to believe community spread is occurring in Valdez. Most identifiable transmissions appear to be happening between family, friends, and co-workers. Small social events, such as group dinners, house parties, group playdates, bonfires with friends, and other gatherings where people let their guard down, continue to be a specific area of concern. While the virus is more likely to spread indoors, outdoor gatherings also still pose a significant risk. Riding in vehicles with those outside your household should also be considered a high risk activity.

We must work together to help protect our community, our medical workers, and our healthcare system. Please remain extra cautious and make thoughtful decisions as you go about your day. Please wear a mask which covers your mouth AND nose when you are around anyone outside your household, even if you are outdoors or can maintain six feet of distance. Keep your social circles small and consistent. Try to limit your time traveling outside Valdez to only that which is necessary. Look for creative ways to minimize risk as you plan your holidays. Prevent additional strain on our local medical community by avoiding high risk activities which could result in injury.

If you think you’ve been exposed to COVID-19, reach out to the Valdez Public Health Nurse (835-4612) or your medical provider for guidance on next steps. Stay home and arrange to get tested if you have even one mild symptom of COVID-19.

The Valdez Unified Command and public health officials continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 situation. We remain committed to providing information, support, and resources for our community.

VALDEZ COVID-19 CASE COUNT					
Last updated 11.22.2020 @ 9:00 p.m.					
	CUMULATIVE CASES TO DATE	ACTIVE CASES	RECOVERED CASES	CUMULATIVE HOSPITALIZATIONS	DEATHS
VALDEZ RESIDENT	48	10	37	2*	1
NON-RESIDENT (NON-ALASKANS)	30	0	30	1*	0

*Valdez case hospitalized in ANC.

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