



# Valdez COVID-19 Unified Command

## NEWS RELEASE # 049

For immediate release: 11/25/2020, 8:00 p.m.

**Valdez, AK** – The community of Valdez received confirmation of one new non-resident case of COVID-19 on Wednesday.

The new non-resident case is an adult with symptoms. The patient is in isolation in a local residence and following the guidance of their medical provider and public health officials. The contact investigation for this case is complete. All close contacts have been notified and are in quarantine. The source investigation remains ongoing. Preliminary investigation results indicate travel is the likely transmission source.

Two Valdez resident cases are also considered recovered as of Wednesday. 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, 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 risk when mitigation measures, such as social distance and wearing face coverings, are not followed. 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 11.25.2020 @ 8:00 p.m.

|                             | CUMULATIVE CASES TO DATE | ACTIVE CASES | RECOVERED CASES | CUMULATIVE HOSPITALIZATIONS | DEATHS |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| VALDEZ RESIDENT             | 49                       | 8            | 40              | 2*                          | 1      |
| NON-RESIDENT (NON-ALASKANS) | 31                       | 1            | 30              | 1*                          | 0      |

\*Valdez case hospitalized in ANC.

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Contact: Allie Ferko, public information officer, Valdez Unified Command, [PIO@valdezak.gov](mailto:PIO@valdezak.gov), (907) 202-0711.