



**Quad Cities COVID-19 Coalition  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 11, 2020**

**Current COVID-19 case count**

**Scott County** – 12 new cases for a total of 286

(2 on Friday; 3 on Saturday; 1 on Sunday; 6 on Monday)

Total deaths in Scott County: 8

Death of an adult age 61-80 reported Friday by Iowa Department of Public Health

**Rock Island County** – 17 new cases for a total of 587. 18 patients are in the hospital.

Total deaths in Rock Island County: 18

**Today's call**

A video recording of today's media call can be found at

<https://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/covid19/news>

**Media briefing schedule change**

Starting this week, the Quad Cities COVID-19 Coalition will offer virtual media briefings three times a week, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, unless a situation warrants additional information to be conveyed.

**Personal decisions in Scott County**

Remarks from Ed Rivers, director of the Scott County Health Department

As we anticipate entering a new phase of the COVID-19 pandemic in Scott County with potential openings of more businesses, retail establishments, and other buildings in the upcoming days and weeks, we know individuals may begin to feel the pressure of having to make personal decisions on when they're ready to begin going out and about.

These decisions are difficult because there is no right answer. And there is no one-size-fits-all answer for everyone in our community. We again encourage you to ask yourself a series of questions that may help you think through your decision to go out and about and make the safest choice possible.

- Illness: Do I have any symptoms that suggest I am ill?
- At risk: Do I have any underlying health conditions that put me at more risk should I come into contact with someone who has the virus?
- Necessity: Is this a necessary trip for myself or my family?
- Social distance: Am I able keep at least 6 feet of physical distance between myself and others while I'm out?

- Hand hygiene: Am I able to keep my hands clean while I'm out?

Remember, we are still in a pandemic where virus is still circulating in our community. We still need to make smart, careful decisions on why we go out, when we make our trips, and how we protect ourselves and other members of our community.

### **Test Iowa**

As a reminder, all Iowans are encouraged to complete the assessment [www.TestIowa.com](http://www.TestIowa.com). A site has opened today in Davenport and individuals will begin to be tested there by appointment only. Additional questions can be answered by the Iowa Governor's office, who is coordinating the sites statewide.

### **Illinois' regional approach**

Remarks from Nita Ludwig, administrator of the Rock Island County Health Department

From the beginning of this Quad Cities-wide public health response, Ed and I have talked about how we are working together locally but that our states provide the blueprint that we follow at the county level. In the last several days, we have seen the divide between Illinois and Iowa grow. We in the Illinois Quad Cities must follow what Gov. JB Pritzker has laid out in his Restore Illinois plan, even if just a few miles away, Iowans are living under a different set of rules.

Illinois is taking a more measured, data-driven approach to reopening than Iowa is. We've told you that Rock Island County is part of a region that includes most of northern and much of central Illinois. The determination of moving from Phase 2 to Phase 3 will be driven by the COVID-19 positivity rate in each region and measures of maintaining regional hospital surge capacity. It also relies on increased testing capacity and contact tracing. The hospital systems and Community Health Care have increased testing. For our part, the Rock Island County Health Department is ramping up contact tracing and is reassigning existing staff to take on these new responsibilities.

We're all doing what we can to move our region closer to normal. We want businesses open. We want restaurants open. The health department doesn't have total control of when that happens.

You have some control, though, if residents take the messages we've given for almost two months now and reduce your chance of contracting COVID-19:

- Stay home as much as possible and especially when ill
- Keep at least 6 feet between you and anyone else
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or into your elbow
- Wear a face covering when you must go out for essential supplies

## **Child abuse worries**

Remarks from the Brooke Hendrickx, director of development and communications at the Child Abuse Council

Moving through the days during and post-pandemic, the Child Abuse Council staff continues to look for ways to support our current clients and community partners while planning to meet the unprecedented, increased need for our programs in the months ahead.

The COVID-19 pandemic creates a perfect storm of isolation and stress that leads to increased risk for child abuse and neglect. Most reports of child abuse come from teachers, coaches, child care providers, and after school support systems. With children no longer in school, child care, or activities, signs of abuse or neglect may go unnoticed and unreported until school resumes in the fall. As a result of school closures, more children likely WILL spend a good part of their day unsupervised or under the care of an unsafe adult. Add to that families under increased stress due to financial uncertainty and anxiety, and you have a home environment with an increased risk of domestic violence and substance misuse, leaving children nowhere to safely call home.

The Child Abuse Council and its programs are uniquely prepared to meet the imminent needs of our community as we begin to heal from the COVID-19 pandemic. Please visit our website — [www.childabuseqc.org](http://www.childabuseqc.org) — or call us at 309-736-7170 to talk about services that may be available to you, your family, and the families you serve.

## **Protecting yourself**

Remember, you control how you respond to COVID-19:

- Stay home as much as possible and especially when ill
- Keep at least 6 feet between you and anyone else
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or into your elbow
- Wear a face covering when you must go out for essential supplies

## **More information**

- [www.TogetherQC.com](http://www.TogetherQC.com)
- [coronavirus.iowa.gov/](http://coronavirus.iowa.gov/)
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>
- Flattening the Curve Resource: <https://covid19.healthdata.org/united-states-of-america>

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