

LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER ORDER
LHO 6/27/20

This Emergency Public Health Order is issued to mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic in Wyandotte County, Kansas, pursuant to the authority provided in K.S.A. 65-119, K.S.A. 65-129b, K.S.A. 65-202 and other applicable laws or regulations.

WHEREAS, the Local Health Officer is authorized and required, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-119 and K.S.A. 65-129b to immediately exercise and maintain supervision over known or suspected cases of any infectious or contagious disease during its continuance, and to issue orders seeing that all such cases are properly handled and that the provisions of the Kansas public health laws as to isolation, quarantine and disinfection are duly enforced; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, has been confirmed in Kansas and in Wyandotte County, resulting in serious illness and at least 2082 confirmed or probable cases, and 79 deaths to date in Wyandotte County alone; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the resulting epidemic in Kansas and Wyandotte County continue to threaten the life and health of our citizens and visitors as well as the economy and remains a public disaster affecting life, health, property and the public peace; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government, the State of Kansas and the Unified Government of Kansas City/Wyandotte County, Kansas have all entered declarations that a disaster had occurred, acknowledging the threat within Wyandotte County, Kansas as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) and the confirmed outbreak and person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in the United States, State of Kansas and Wyandotte County; and

WHEREAS, the Local Health Officer has entered various Orders restricting public gatherings in the County, and restricting the operation of certain businesses and activities, and requiring that residents stay at home, all intended to limit the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Kansas has signed various Executive Orders, among others established a Kansas Essential Function Framework, and *Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS*, all intended to limit the spread of COVID-19 in the State; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Kansas has signed Executive Order 20-34 implementing Phase Two of *Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS*, effective 12:00 a.m. on May 22, 2020; said requirements were classified as only guidance on May 26, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Local Health Officer entered LHO 4/21/20 adopting a formal framework known as *RESTART WYCO!* to secure the health, safety, and economic well-being of Wyandotte County residents and businesses, and as direction and guidance for residents and businesses based upon the conditions which exist in Wyandotte County at various times; and

WHEREAS, *RESTART WYCO!* outlines the factors to be considered in determining when it is appropriate to change Zones. Such factors include the number of hospitalizations and deaths in Wyandotte

County and surrounding areas and the percentage positive rate of testing, both over a 14- or 7-day period; as well as capacity to test, provide healthcare, and perform contact tracing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Local Health Officer, pursuant to the above that:

1. The threat of COVID-19 and the steps necessary to prevent its spread vary based upon the locality thereby requiring a specific, measured and phased approach determined by data applicable to Wyandotte County, Kansas.
2. *RESTART WYCO!* and *Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS*, both previously adopted, and as may be amended, are available and posted on the UG website www.wycokckc.org
3. The current conditions in Wyandotte County, Kansas require continued implementation of the *Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS Phase Three* conditions, as modified by LHO 6/5/20 & 6/18/20, and compliance with those conditions remain required.
4. ***Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS Phase Three* conditions are hereby further modified, and the following additional requirements are in effect:**
 - **When in a public indoor space (including a workplace, business, place of worship, or public facility such as a community center or library) individuals are required to wear a mask covering the nose and mouth**
 - Masks should be positioned carefully over the mouth and nose and should not be touched or readjusted until such time as the mask is removed. Hand hygiene is encouraged before taking masks off and prior to re-masking.
 - Masks are not required inside a solitary, enclosed workspace such as office.
 - Masks may be removed in restaurants and bars when individuals are actively eating or drinking but must be worn at all times otherwise.
 - **When in a public outdoor space or when using public transportation, taxis or ride-sharing services individuals are required to wear a mask covering the nose and mouth**
 - Including all outdoor public gathering places such as bus stops, sidewalks, parks, playgrounds, farmers markets, and restaurant/bar patio seating.
 - Masks are not required when individuals are driving alone or with others they live with, when individuals are exercising alone or with others they live with, or when individuals can absolutely guarantee that they will be able to maintain at least 6 feet of social distancing from all others.
 - **The following individuals are exempt from the requirement to wear a face covering:**
 - Those who are deaf or hard of hearing
 - Children younger than five years old; and
 - Children who are younger than two years old should never wear face coverings due to the risk of suffocation.
 - Children who are two, three, or four years old, with the assistance and close supervision of an adult, are strongly recommended to wear a face covering at all times in settings, like

grocery stores or pharmacies, where it is likely that a distance of at least six feet cannot be maintained from non-household members and vulnerable people must go.

- Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering. This includes, but is not limited to, persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance.

For purposes of this order, a face covering means a cloth face covering that covers the nose and mouth. It can be:

- A sewn mask secured with ties or straps around the head or behind the ears;
- Multiple layers of fabric tied around the head;
- Made from a variety of materials, such as fleece, cotton, or linen; or
- Factory-made or made from household items.

A face covering also includes a mask or covering that provides a higher level of protection than a cloth face covering, such as an N95 mask, though people are generally encouraged to use cloth face coverings to preserve access to these higher grade face coverings for health care and other settings where they are most needed.

Children in childcare facilities and K-12 public and private schools may use face shields as an alternative to a cloth face covering if authorized pursuant to an order of the Governor.

Individuals who are medically unable to wear a mask must wear a full face shield covering the mouth, nose, and eyes as an alternative to a face mask.

5. This Order becomes effective at 5:00 pm **June 30, 2020** and remains in effect until conditions in Wyandotte County are such to warrant a change or modification.
6. This Order may be supplemented or modified as required for the effective and efficient management and control of the Coronavirus epidemic in the County by further order or direction of the Wyandotte County Board of Public Health or by the Wyandotte County Local Health Officer, as applicable.
7. Pursuant to K.S.A. 65-129b, any sheriff, deputy sheriff or other law enforcement officer of any political subdivision within Wyandotte County, Kansas is hereby ordered to assist in the execution or enforcement of this Order, as amended or modified, as well as all other orders of the Local Health Officer not otherwise rescinded or superseded.
8. This Order shall be known and referred to as LHO 6/27/20.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 27th DAY OF JUNE 2020

K. Allen Greiner MD

Dr. K. Allen Greiner M.D.
Local Health Officer
Wyandotte County, Kansas