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County Tightens Exceptions to Prevent Spread of COVID-19

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas Public Health Department’s Chief Medical Officer, Allen Griener, has issues an updated order concerning the closure of restaurants, bars, taverns, clubs, and movie theaters to prevent the transmission of COVID-19.

“Emerging scientific evidence suggests that early rather than late measures to reduce social interactions by the public reduces the spread of COVID-19. Epidemiological studies from this year’s outbreak and prior pandemics indicate that the total number of cases and deaths can be reduced by closing venues where the public has prolonged close contact with each other. These measures are based on that important information,” said Dr. Allen Greiner, the Wyandotte County Public Health Department’s Chief Medical Officer.

The updated order removes previous exceptions for religious and faith-based activities, weddings, and funerals.

Exceptions for delivery, pick-up, and drive-through food service remain. Exceptions for governmental and judicial functions, healthcare facilities, and private business operations also remain.

Public gatherings of more than 10 people are also not allowed.

“We must be aggressive to combat the spread of COVID-19, or risk much greater rates of infection in the general population. If we all commit to doing our part to limit transmission, then we should expect to return to normal much sooner. Time will tell how effective these measures will be, but these measures must be taken,” said Mayor David Alvey

The Unified Government will revisit the decision on April 1 with an evaluation of conditions at that time.

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