

**LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER ORDER**  
**LHO 7/27/20**

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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.

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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 4,065 confirmed or probable cases, and 92 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; and

WHEREAS, the Local Health Officer entered LHO 6/5/20 implementing Phase Three of *Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS*, effective 12:0a a.m. on June 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Kansas has signed Executive Order 20-52 implementing a mask or face covering requirement in the State of Kansas, effective 12:01 a.m. on July 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Local Health Officer entered LHO 7/6/20 & 7/14/20 adopting, modifying, and mandating Executive Order 20-52 in Wyandotte County.

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

- 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.
- Subject to amendment if future medical data requires enhanced measures, this Order mandates the following:
- Wyandotte County public schools are prohibited from opening school buildings for in-person education until after Labor Day, 2020 to ensure educators have sufficient time to prepare for school re-opening
- All schoolchildren and educators must wear masks while inside and in outdoor groups at all times. **Masks *must* be worn outdoors when 6ft distance cannot be maintained, otherwise, masks wearing may be temporarily relaxed.**
- Hand sanitizer should be used by students and teachers several times daily
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet between children and educators should be maintained
- Cohorting should be ensured at every grade level, such that grades will be siloed with one or a small number of educator/supervisor during class sessions
- The use of outdoor space as much as possible for coursework learning, physical education, music and singing is encouraged. Social distance of 6 feet or more must be maintained when outdoors. Masks must be worn outdoors when 6ft social distance cannot be maintained.
- Children should be cohorted but they also must be physically spaced out throughout entire buildings/facilities/campuses so that schools achieve 50% less density of students in available spaces. Schools may use multiple methods to achieve 50% less density of students in the physical spaces they have available to them – This does not necessarily mean that there are half as many kids in attendance, rather it can be the same number of kids but spaced out into twice the total amount of space that would typically be utilized. This may be achieved creatively such as examples below, or other suggestions will be accepted as well:
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> – 7th graders back to school full-time, 8<sup>th</sup> – 12th grade distance learning full-time; or
  - b. Children spaced within the school such that non-traditional spaces may be used as educational space such as gymnasiums, group rooms, band/singing rooms, etc.; or
  - c. cohort A and B rotate days physically present at the school – i.e. every other day schooling
  - d. **School districts in Wyandotte County will be required to submit their plan to comply to the health department for approval before implementation in the schools.**
- This Order becomes effective at 12:01am **July 28, 2020** and remains in effect until conditions in Wyandotte County are such to warrant a change or modification.
- 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.

- 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.
- Violation of this Order is a violation of Ordinance 17-7 and is a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by a maximum fine of \$500 and a 30-day jail sentence.
- This Order shall be known and referred to as LHO 7/27/20.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 27<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "K. Allen Greiner M.D.", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

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