COVID-19: Working together to protect our community's health

Tacoma City Council Meeting Anthony L-T Chen, MD, MPH, Director of Health

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department March 31, 2020



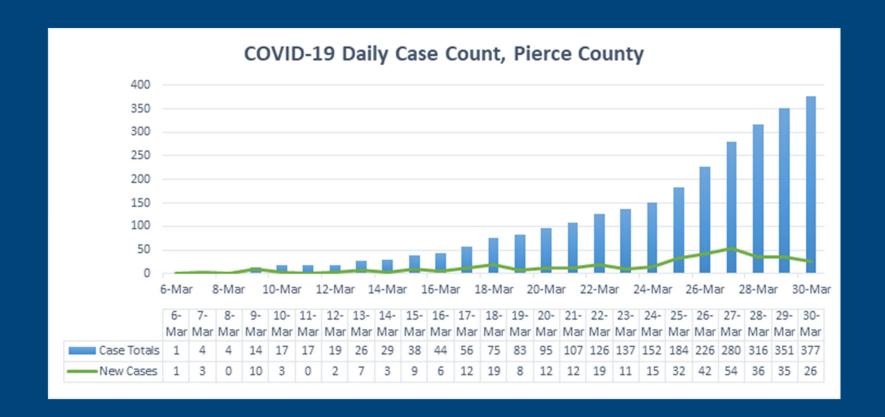


COVID-19 Data

- Transmission is widespread in Pierce County.
- 4,896 cases and 195 deaths in Washington as of March 28, 2020.
 - 65,462 people across the state tested negative.
- 377 cases and 6 deaths in Pierce County as of March 31, 2020.
 - 5,299 people tested.*
 - Doesn't include FEMA tests administered at the Tacoma Dome.



Pierce County COVID-19 Cases





Drive-Thru Testing

- Provided nearly 1,000 tests at the Tacoma Dome March 21-25.
- Event ran smoothly.
- Waiting on test results from FEMA.



Temporary Care Centers

- Resource for people who can't safely or practically stay at home when asked to by a public health professional.
- For example: a person living with an elderly or immune-compromised family member may need to be elsewhere to avoid getting the family member sick.
- Sites will relieve pressure on hospitals.
- Implementing operational plans for 3 centers in Pierce County.
 - Considered more than 80 sites.



Assessment and Recovery

Effective and essential to slow the spread of disease and save lives.

- Assessment (quarantine): If you are exposed to a confirmed case but aren't showing symptoms, you should stay away from others for 14 days.
- Recovery (isolation): If you have COVID-19 or are showing symptoms, you should stay away from others for 7 days total or 72 hours after symptoms subside, whichever is longer.



Temporary Care Centers

Addressing local concerns:

- Assign rooms and sign off before anyone leaves.
- Provide security 24/7. No visitors allowed.
- Full on-site services including medical, mental health, food and laundry.
- Report regularly on patient count and health status and monitor and respond to concerns.
- Work with trusted leaders including culturally and linguistically diverse populations.
- No cost to communities hosting the centers.

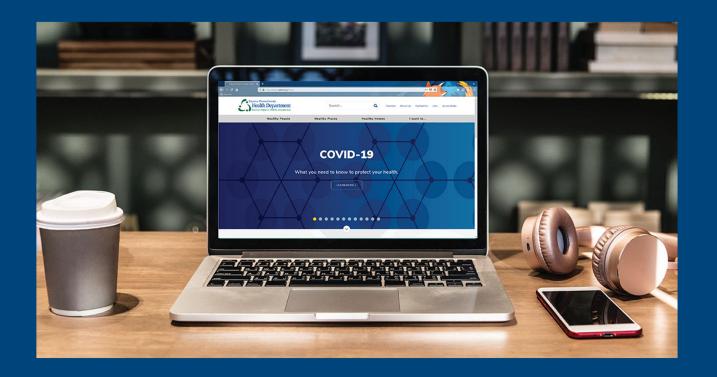


Temporary Expansion Shelters

- Resource for people living homeless to practice social distancing.
- Homeless shelters will work with public health and human resources to coordinate needs and placement in an expansion shelter.
- Also for people living homeless who have shown symptoms of COVID-19, are positive for COVID-19 or are waiting for their test results.



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Questions?

Learn more:

www.tpchd.org/coronavirus

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