

PRESS RELEASE

September 4, 2020

<u>Commissioners</u> Dan W. Allhands, Chair James P. Hart Ronald E. Nye Bonnie O'Neill, MS Public Information Officer 103 W Wallace St./PO Box 278 Virginia City, MT 59755 Cellphone: 406.596.0193 Commissioners' Office 406.843.4277

Madison County Nursing Home Positive Staff COVID-19 Case

September 4, 2020, Mr. Steve McNeece, Nursing Home Administrator advised that the Tobacco Root Mountains Care Center (TRMCC) has had an employee who tested positive for the coronavirus. The staff member was not symptomatic.

The facility is working with the Madison County Public Health Department, Melissa Brummell, RN and the Department of Public Health and Human Services to ensure that proper precautionary measures are being taken.

McNeece advised that all the residents, their families, and their representatives, and staff members will be informed of the situation. In addition, the facility will begin testing and will continue monitoring the residents, and the employees for the recommended amount of time. Madison County is committed to protecting the health and safety of our residents and staff.

Melissa Brummell, Director of Madison County Public Health, reported that all of the individuals in close contact with the new case are being notified and will be required to take specific precautions for the appropriate period of time. At this time, health officials are not disclosing the individual's name nor his or her residence.

Brummell also stressed that those without symptoms are still able to spread the virus, which is why wearing a facemask, social distancing, and hand sanitizing is so important. She advised the public should follow the CDC's guidelines. Be alert for symptoms such as fever, cough, trouble breathing, and seek emergency medical treatment if you or a family member shows any symptoms of COVID-19. Additional information is available at the CDC's website: <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</u> for additional information.

The Madison County Public Health Department is available during normal business hours to answer questions about COVID-19 by phone at 406.843.4295. For additional information concerning COVID-19, visit the Public Health website: <u>https://madisoncountymt.gov/230/Public-Health</u>.

In coordination between TRMCC, the Madison County Public Health Department, and Madison County we will keep the community informed via media outlets, as more information is known.