



**Kathleen Cuddy, MPH  
Public Health Director  
Cayuga County Health Department  
8 Dill St.  
Auburn, NY 13021**



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## **First Death from COVID-19 in Cayuga County**

Cayuga County Health Department has received notification of a confirmed COVID-19 death in a Cayuga County resident. This is the first death related to the illness here in Cayuga County. Public Health Director, Kathleen Cuddy, states “Today we lost a member of our community to COVID-19. My sincerest condolences to the family and friends of this individual who are experiencing this loss. The decedent, a male in his 40’s had been hospitalized since April 1, 2020 and had underlying chronic health issues which may have contributed to his death. Out of respect for the privacy of the deceased and his family, we will not be releasing further information.

The contact tracing investigation for the deceased individual had been performed and is complete at this time.

## **Cayuga County Covid-19 Situational Update as of 4:00pm**

### **New Cases -**

Two new cases today.

- A woman in her 30’s outside the City
- A man in his 50’s outside the City

Contact tracing investigations are on-going for these two new cases.

Again, the purpose of a contact investigation is to determine who the confirmed cases came into contact with. The Health Department then notifies those individuals and places them under mandatory quarantine order. If you were not notified by the Cayuga County Health Department, you were not a direct contact.

### **Confirmed Cases – total year to date**

There have been seventeen (17) total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Cayuga County.

- Of the 17, five have been discharged from isolation and have recovered.

### **Test Results Received –**

Number of test results received since testing began in early March – **454** as of today.

- This information includes all testing of Cayuga County residents by physicians, healthcare facilities and licensed clinical laboratories.



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The Cayuga County Health Department will receive results on any Cayuga County resident who was tested for COVID-19 even if they were tested out of county.

### **Results pending –**

As of today, we are awaiting the results of 28 tests that were performed on Cayuga County residents by the Cayuga County Health Department, physicians, healthcare facilities and licensed clinical laboratories.

### **Hospitalized patients**

One individual, of the twelve cases in isolation is hospitalized. This individual is stable.

### **Deaths**

One death related to COVID-19 in our county.

### **Mandatory Quarantine/ Isolation**

33 in mandatory quarantine

12 in mandatory isolation

Individuals that are confirmed COVID cases are placed into Mandatory Isolation. Contacts of confirmed cases are placed into Mandatory Quarantine. These are written legal orders issued by the Public Health Director. The purpose of these orders is to reinforce the importance of compliance and restricts their movement.

The Cayuga County Health Department conducts monitoring of the individuals in mandatory quarantine and isolation daily, with telephone calls and unannounced in-person visits, to ensure compliance of the legal order which restricts their movement.

### **Social Distancing**

Cuddy said, “I cannot reinforce enough the importance of social distancing at this time. For weeks we have been asking residents to practice social distancing by staying home, limiting trips to stores and other public venues. This is not the time to be comfortable or complacent with our behaviors”.

While New York City may be experiencing declines in their numbers, central NY and specifically Cayuga County are seeing an increase in the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Research is showing that individuals can transmit the virus days before showing symptoms of illness. This is why staying home and practicing social distancing matters.



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Right now we need to focus on what we can do to prevent the spread of this illness. This virus does not discriminate. It does not matter if you are male or female, how old you are or where you live. This virus is throughout our county and it has caused a death of one our own.

Social distancing is the most effective action we can perform to slow the spread of this virus amongst each other. Staying home when ill, wearing a mask in public while limiting your trips and frequent and thorough hand washing are also important.

Everyone plays a role in preventing the spread of this virus. Complying with our recommendations is imperative to protecting the health of our community in the days and weeks to come.

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