



CLAY COUNTY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Clay County Long-Term Care Facility Outbreaks

LIBERTY, Mo. – June 19, 2020 – An outbreak of COVID-19 has been identified at Ashton Court Care and Rehabilitation Centre, a long-term care facility located in Liberty, MO. As of June 19, five staff members and three residents have tested positive for COVID-19.

This outbreak comes after another local nursing home, Pleasant Valley Manor Care Center, began experiencing an outbreak May 28. After three rounds of testing of residents and staff, there have been 79 cases of COVID-19 identified and eight resulting deaths associated with the facility. Only 18 cases have shown symptoms. The investigation is ongoing and the outbreaks appear to be unrelated.

The role of Clay County Public Health Center in any long-term care facility outbreak is to conduct the contact investigation and inform follow-up testing procedures. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services' Division of Long-Term Care facilitates infection control site visits and resources like testing and protective equipment.

After the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services issued an order on May 18, all congregate living facilities, including nursing homes, must report any cases of COVID-19 in staff or residents to public health within 24 hours.

“That change in the notification process has allowed local and state public health to more quickly get involved in outbreaks and coordinate efforts with the facilities to minimize any further spread of disease,” said Ashley Wegner, section chief of Health Planning and Policy for Clay County Public Health Center. “All the long-term care facilities in Clay County that have experienced COVID-19 outbreaks have been cooperative in their joint efforts with us and the state to try to protect their employees and residents.”

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The mission of the Clay County Public Health Center is to deliver the essential public health services of prevention, promotion and protection to the communities of Clay County.

For the latest COVID-19 updates and guidance from Clay County Public Health Center, visit clayhealth.com/coronavirus and follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/clayhealth) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/clayhealth).