
CLEVELAND COUNTY

PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER

Media contact:

DeShay Oliver
Deputy Director
Cleveland County Public Health Center
Office: 980-484-5199
Deshay.oliver@clevelandcounty.com

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Cleveland County Reports Seventh Death Related to COVID-19

SHELBY, NC – The Cleveland County Health Department is sad to report the seventh death associated with COVID-19 in Cleveland County.

The individual, who passed on July 6, 2020, was in the 25-49 age range and had an underlying health condition. To protect the family’s privacy, no further information about this individual will be released.

“My thoughts and prayers are with this individual’s family,” Cleveland County Health Director Tiffany Hansen said. “My heart is heavy today as we announce yet another death of a Cleveland County resident. It feels as though we are losing one community member after another to this relentless virus. This marks our seventh COVID-related death and our fifth death in just two short weeks.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends all people two (2) years of age and older wear a cloth face covering in public settings and when around people who don’t live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. Cloth face coverings serve as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the cloth face covering coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice. This recommendation is based on what we know about the role respiratory droplets play in the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19, paired with evidence that shows cloth face coverings reduce the spray of droplets when worn over the nose and mouth.

“COVID-19 can be spread by people who do not have symptoms and do not know that they are infected. That’s why it’s important for everyone to wear cloth face coverings in public settings and practice social distancing,” Cleveland County Deputy Health Director DeShay Oliver said. “We want to support and empower our community members to wear a cloth face covering by hosting a free cloth mask distribution event.”

Cleveland County will be hosting a free cloth mask drive-thru distribution event on Thursday, July 9 from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm at the LeGrand Center located at 1800 E Marion St, Shelby. A pack of five (5) cloth masks will be distributed to each vehicle that drives through while supplies last.

“We have just under 50,000 masks and we hope to give them all out at this event. Masks have already been distributed to groups such as the Life Enrichment Center, Senior Center and Cleveland County Schools’ meal distribution sites in an effort to reach some of our more vulnerable populations and meet some immediate needs,” said Oliver.

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