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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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McPherson County Health Department Director and McPherson County Health Officer

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## **LOCAL REOPENING PLAN FOR MCPHERSON COUNTY DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

Kansas Governor Laura Kelly recently announced a new approach to reopen Kansas communities during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Governor Kelly is recommending the Framework for Reopening Kansas set forth by her team continues to be followed, but the power resides with local health officials in each county.

The McPherson County Health Department and Health Officer are weighing the options for proceeding in McPherson County. As soon as an implementation plan is formulated, a release will be published with direction and detail for McPherson County residents, businesses and entities. Our priority is to keep McPherson County safe, but we recognize the ripple effect the pandemic has on the mental health, economic wellbeing and financial stability of our residents. Please know we do not take these decisions lightly and are working to gather information.

McPherson County Health Department reports 27 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in McPherson County. 23 of the total confirmed cases have now met recovery guidelines set forth by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. One of the total confirmed cases is currently hospitalized.

Symptoms for COVID-19 appear 2-14 days after exposure and include fever, cough, shortness of breath, malaise, sore throat, chills, and diarrhea. If you develop any of these symptoms, contact your health care provider. You must stay home for at least 10 days after symptoms started or for 72 hours after fever is gone (without the use of fever-reducing medication) and with significant improvement in symptoms, whichever is longer.

If you develop symptoms that may indicate COVID-19, please call your health care provider. If you do not have a provider, please call your local hospital or the McPherson County Health Department at 620-241-1753 or email [machd@mcphersoncountyks.us](mailto:machd@mcphersoncountyks.us).

KDHE and MCHD continue to mandate a 14-day home quarantine for Kansas if you have done any of the following:

- Traveled within the United States to any of the following states with known widespread community transmission:
  - On or after March 15: New York
  - On or after March 23: Illinois, New Jersey
  - On or after April 6: Connecticut
  - On or after April 30: Massachusetts, Rhode Island
  - On or after May 12: Maryland
- Traveled internationally on or after March 15
- Traveled on a cruise ship or river cruise on or after March 15

KDHE and MCHD recommend anyone who attended Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri over the Memorial Day Weekend and did not use protective measures like social distancing and face masks voluntarily self-quarantine for 14-days.

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