

Date: April 18, 2020 Time: 12:00pm To: All Local Media

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COVID-19 cluster identified at Firelands Counseling and Recovery in Sandusky, Ohio

Seven (7) employees at Firelands Counseling and Recovery, located at 1925 Hayes Avenue in Sandusky, Ohio, have received laboratory-confirmed positive test results for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Firelands Counseling and Recovery is working closely with the Erie County Health Department to implement all necessary infection control measures. All employees and clients are being notified of their risk of possible exposure.

To date, no clients have tested positive for COVID-19. If you have been to Firelands Counseling and Recovery at 1925 Hayes Avenue in Sandusky on or after April 4, 2020, you should call your case manager or the Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Hotline at 1-800-826-1306 for more information.

The Erie County Health Department and Firelands Regional Medical Center are conducting an investigation to identify all close contacts of the laboratory-confirmed cases, and will contact those individuals with further instructions to self-quarantine and monitor symptoms. A close contact is defined as someone who lives in the same household, or has spent an extended period of time in very close proximity of the infected individual.

Firelands Counseling and Recovery at 1925 Hayes Avenue in Sandusky is currently being extensively cleaned and will re-open on Monday, April 20, 2020, at which time everyone coming into the building will be required to wear a mask or face covering. If you have an appointment, you should plan ahead by bringing a cloth face covering, such as a mask or bandana, with you to your appointment.

If you begin to develop symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath, call your doctor and tell them your symptoms and that you believe you have been exposed to COVID-19. If you do not have a physician, download the <u>Firelands Virtual Care App</u> to speak with a provider.

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Peter Schade, MPH, RS Health Commissioner Erie County Health Department Jeremy Normington-Slay, DPT, MBA, FACHE Chief Executive Officer Firelands Regional Health System