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News Release

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Emmons County Public Health to Provide COVID-19 Tests for Community

[LINTON, ND] – Emmons County Public Health (ECPH) will begin providing at-home COVID-19 tests at no out-of-pocket cost to the community on Tuesday, February 15, through its Linton office.

Tests are limited to two per person, though one individual may pick up tests for a household. No identification is required to pick up tests. Individuals entering ECPH office (located at 118 E Spruce Avenue in Linton) are required to wear masks.

"Having these tests is really going to make a difference for a rural county like ours," said ECPH Executive Officer Bev Voller. "By having these tests on hand, you don't need to wait a day, or over a weekend to get tested. If you learn you are a close contact or are experiencing symptoms, you can use one of the tests and can make more informed decisions about how you proceed with your health decisions."

Any business or organization interested in receiving larger quantities of test kits to test employees/volunteers/others can contact ECPH by phone at (701) 254-4027 for more information.

More than 1.5 million tests have been purchased by the North Dakota Department of Health to be distributed. Shipments of these tests will arrive throughout February and March. An information sheet containing test particulars, including what to do if testing positive or negative, will be available in English and Spanish. This information will also be available online.

There are three types of tests available:

- Celltrion 2 tests per box, authorized for individuals aged 14 years and older.
- iHealth 2 tests per box, authorized for individuals aged 2 years and older.
- FlowFlex 1 test per box, authorized for individuals aged 2 years and older.

For ongoing response efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic, the North Dakota Department of Health has established a COVID-19 Hotline to help answer your questions. You may call 1-866-207-2880, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with questions. Please note that individuals seeking specific medical advice should contact their healthcare provider.

Emmons County Public Health has provided a variety of COVID-19 information online at <u>http://www.emmonsnd.com/public-health.html</u>, and through its Facebook page at <u>https://www.facebook.com/ECPH.gov</u>. For more info about COVID-19, visit the <u>ND</u> <u>Department of Health or CDC website</u>.

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