

Southeast Kansas Multi-County Health Departments
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2020

Anderson County COvid-19 Task Force Recommendations Announced

The Anderson County COvid-19 Task Force recently met to address the county's approach regarding phase one of the Governor's Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen Kansas.

Although the committee does not feel it is necessary to impose stricter restrictions from the Governor's plan, it is recommended, until further notice, that businesses with buffets/self-service food stations have their staff serve (while wearing gloves and a mask) customers from buffets/self-service food stations to decrease the likelihood of disease spread. It is recommended that a buffet/self-service food station portion of a business remain closed if these businesses are unable to follow the guidelines listed above.

Also, it is recommended, until further notice, that businesses with self-service beverage stations have cups, lids, and straws provided to customers directly from staff (with staff wearing gloves) and that disinfectant wipes are available to customers to allow customers to wipe down highly touched areas of station prior to use. Signage should be posted on or near self-service beverage stations to recommend customers disinfect highly touched areas, prior to use. It is recommended that a self-service beverage station portion of a business remain closed if these businesses are unable to follow the guidelines listed above.

The Task Force highly recommends for all residents to continue to follow the CDC guidelines for hygiene and social distancing protocols, such as:

- Washing hands frequently, while avoiding contact with one's face;
- Remaining home when sick or running a fever;
- Staying at least 6 feet from other people;
- Following isolation and quarantine orders issued by state or local health officers;
- Working remotely, if possible.

The committee is dedicated to providing Anderson County residents with the best direction to reopening our county in the safest manner.

Anderson County COvid-19 Task Force Committee

Rebecca Johnson, SEK Multi-County Public Health Officer

JD Mersman – Anderson County Emergency Management Director

Dr. Wendy Belcher – St. Luke's Health System/Anderson County Hospital

Dr. Ross Kimball – Pheasant Ridge Family Medicine

Tanya Ewert – Anderson County Hospital/ EMS

Chris Weiner – Garnett City Manager

Julie Wettstein – Anderson County Clerk/PIO

Don Blome – USD 365 Superintendent

Shane Walter – USD 479 Superintendent

Jonathan Hall – Church of the Nazarene/Ministerial Alliance

Melissa Hobbs – City of Colony Mayor

Susan Wettstein – Garnett City Director of Community Development/Tourism/PIO

Kris Hix – Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director

Nate Wiehl – AuBurn Pharmacy Director of Clinical Services

Mike Burns – AuBurn Pharmacy President/CEO

Sonya Martin – Parkview Heights Administrator

Samantha Mason – Anderson County Health Department Public Health Nurse

Mick Brinkmeyer – Anderson County Fire Department Coordinator

Jerry Howarter – Anderson County Commissioner