



LAS ANIMAS-HUERFANO COUNTIES DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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<https://www.colorado.gov/la-h-health>

Possible Community Exposure to COVID-19

June 30, 2020-Las Animas, CO-The Las Animas Huerfano Counties District Health Department is notifying participants who attended a Birthday Party Celebration for Ann Valdez on Sunday, June 28, 2020 in Starkville that an attendee tested positive for COVID-19.

“This is a public notice notifying anyone who was at the Birthday Party Celebration for Ann Valdez on Sunday, June 28 that an attendee at the party tested positive for COVID-19,” said Kim Gonzales, Director of the Las Animas Huerfano Counties District Health Department. “Anyone who was at the birthday party in Starkville June 28 should monitor themselves for symptoms of COVID-19 at least through July 11th.”

Individuals who were at the Birthday Party Celebration for Ann Valdez in Starkville and are showing any symptoms of COVID-19 should remain at home and contact their health care provider. If you are having symptoms, do not go to work, stay home, isolate and get tested.

Anyone having symptoms, even if they are mild, should get tested for COVID-19. Testing is available at Mt San Rafael Hospital, call ahead for testing at 719-846-9213. www.colorado.gov/la-h-health It is important to note a negative test does not mean you cannot get sick afterwards, especially within 14 days after exposure. Continue to monitor for symptoms and immediately isolate at home if symptoms develop and get tested.

“Community members are encouraged to wash your hands frequently, wear a cloth mask that covers your mouth and nose when out in public, and practice social distancing,” Gonzales said. Public health officials recommend community members keep in mind the following to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in public places:

If you feel symptoms of COVID-19 (fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea), notify your employer and stay at home.

To protect the Las Animas County community and the most vulnerable, everybody has a responsibility to:

- Follow the Governor’s [Safer at Home and in the Vast, Great Outdoors](#) order.
- Wear a non-medical cloth face covering while out in public for necessary activities.
- Minimize social activities and being physically close to other people.
- Isolate yourself if you feel symptoms of shortness of breath, cough, temperature of 100.4 or higher, chills, headache, sore throat and new loss of smell or taste, call your medical provider before visiting them.
- Seek preventative and routine care through your primary care provider and use the emergency room when medically necessary.
- Wash your hands with soap regularly.

- Cough or sneeze into elbow or tissue.
- Stay home when you're sick.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Clean surfaces frequently touched.

Las Animas Huerfano Counties District Health Department encourages residents and media to seek out credible, reliable sources of information on COVID-19:

- www.colorado.gov/la-h-health.
- www.covid19.colorado.gov