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NEWS RELEASE

To: Local Media
From: Marie-Noel Sandoval, MPH, Health Officer
Date: April 17th, 2020

COVID-19 Weekday Update

As of today at 2:00pm, there are 4,045 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of Wisconsin. Statewide, 205 individuals have died due to complications related to COVID-19. There are a total of 63 confirmed positive cases in Rock County and four deaths. There have been a minimum of 1,125 negative tests results reported in our county.

Please visit our website, www.co.rock.wi.us/publichealth for additional local COVID-19 information updated daily.

Safer At Home Order Extended

Many of you may already be aware that yesterday, April 16th, Gov. Tony Evers directed Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) Secretary-designee Andrea Palm to extend the Safer at Home order from April 24, 2020 to 8 a.m. Tuesday, May 26, 2020, or until a superseding order is issued. The order implements some new measures to ensure safety and support the progress we've made in containing COVID-19, but also allows certain activities to start up again. Restrictions on gatherings and travel, and social distancing requirements remain the same. All Rock County residents are to stay at home, except when leaving for essential activities. "All public and private gatherings of any number of people that are not part of a single household or living unit are prohibited." The order is available here: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/prepare.htm>

The Safer At Home Order is really working to reduce the impact of COVID-19 in our community, but that doesn't make it easier or less frustrating. Physical isolation, along with the many other hardships that have come about during this pandemic, are not always easy to cope with. If you are feeling overwhelmed with emotions like sadness, depression, or anxiety, visit resilient.wisconsin.gov, call 800-985-5990 to speak to a trained crisis counselor, or text TalkWithUS to 66747. If you are feeling unable to cope or having thoughts of self-harm or suicide, reach out for help right away. Text HOPELINE to 741741 or call the Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK. And if you know others who are struggling, reach out to them.

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