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**NEWS RELEASE**

To: Local Media  
From: Marie-Noel Sandoval, MPH, Health Officer  
Date: March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**COVID-19 Daily Update**

As of today at 2:00pm, there are 707 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of Wisconsin, with one case already recovered. Statewide, eight individuals have died due to complications related to COVID-19. There are a total of eight confirmed positive cases in Rock County.

Please visit <https://www.co.rock.wi.us/publichealth-familycommunity/publichealth-communicabledisease/coronavirus-disease-2019> to view the Daily Rock County COVID-19 Update.

**More Testing Means More Positive Results**

It is important to remember that over the coming days, and even weeks, the impact of social distancing takes time to become visible. As private industry joins State laboratories to increase the testing capacity, and more and more people get tested for COVID-19, we are going to see an increase of the number of positive cases in Rock County. Those getting positive test results now were very likely infected before the Stay At Home Order or social distancing guidelines were in place in Wisconsin.

Please do not be discouraged by the increase in number of positive cases in our community! More cases right now does not necessary mean our community is doing a bad job at following the orders. Social distancing and the Stay At Home Order, if taken seriously by every Rock County resident, will reduce the rate of increase in the number of positive cases in the coming weeks. And if we can reduce the rate of increase, we can help ensure our healthcare systems can care for all of those requiring medical care in our community. The goals of these efforts are to reduce both spread and the number of people requiring medical care at the same time.

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