



ALBEMARLE REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES  
Partners in Public Health

711 Roanoke Ave. Elizabeth City, NC 27909

NEWS RELEASE # 45

May 21, 2020  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ALBEMARLE REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES REPORTS ADDITIONAL COVID-19 RELATED DEATHS**

Elizabeth City, NC - Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS) has received notification confirming an additional death associated with COVID-19 in a Pasquotank County resident. The individual was over the age 65 and succumbed to complications from COVID-19. This death is in addition to two deaths announced by Pasquotank – Camden – Elizabeth City Emergency Management on Sunday, May 17, 2020.

In addition, ARHS has also received notification of the first COVID-19 related death in a Gates County resident. The individual was over the age 65 and succumbed to complications related to the virus. To protect each family's privacy, no further information about these patients will be released.

"Again we are extremely saddened by the loss of these community members. Our heart goes out to the family and friends of these individuals," states R. Battle Betts Jr., MPA, Health Director. "This virus continues to take a toll on our community and its residents. We have to remain proactive and continue to practice the three W's when we leave our home: Wear a cloth face covering, Wait six feet apart, and Wash your hands."

Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS) is reporting case numbers as of Thursday, May 21, 2020. Lab confirmed positive COVID-19 cases across the Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS) region include:

Pasquotank County – 93 lab confirmed cases - 27 active, 58 recovered, and 8 deaths

Perquimans County – 23 lab confirmed cases – 9 active, 12 recovered, and 2 deaths

Camden County – 3 lab confirmed cases – 1 active and 2 recovered

Chowan County – 14 lab confirmed cases - 3 active and 11 recovered

Currituck County – 11 lab confirmed cases - 0 active and 11 recovered

Bertie County – 99 lab confirmed cases - 21 active, 75 recovered, and 3 deaths

Gates County – 14 lab confirmed cases - 3 active, 10 recovered, and 1 death

Hertford County – 60 lab confirmed cases - 17 active, 42 recovered, and 1 death

ARHS continues to work with Elizabeth City Health and Rehabilitation on the COVID-19 outbreak at the facility. Currently there are 38 residents and 19 staff members with lab-confirmed positive cases. The most recent Pasquotank death is related to the facility outbreak, bringing the total to seven. Cases at Bertie Correctional Facility (six staff and 10 inmates)

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and Rivers Correctional Institution (22 staff and 20 inmates) remain stable at this time. ARHS staff are now working with Ahsoskie House to manage an outbreak of three staff members.

As noted previously, NCDHHS considers an outbreak to be over if there is no evidence of continued transmission within the facility. This is measured as 28 days after the latest date of onset in a symptomatic person or the latest date of specimen collection in an asymptomatic person, whichever is later. As a reminder the outbreaks at the Pasquotank Correctional Institution and Three Rivers Rehabilitation Center, are both considered resolved.

ARHS is continuing to ask our citizens to be mindful in practicing preventive and safety measures. These precautions include:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Practice social distancing; stay at least six feet away from others, avoid unnecessary travel, avoid handshakes, hugs and other close contact.
- Wear a cloth face covering in public when social distancing measures are hard to maintain.

For more information about COVID-19 visit these sites:

- Albemarle Regional Health Services - <http://www.arhs-nc.org/> or call **252-338-WELL**
- North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services - <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/>
- Center for Disease Control - <https://www.cdc.gov/>

*For more information, please contact Amy Underhill, ARHS PIO at 252-338-4448 or [aunderhill@arhs-nc.org](mailto:aunderhill@arhs-nc.org).*

*Albemarle Regional Health Services is dedicated to disease prevention and the promotion of a healthy environment to reduce morbidity, mortality, and disability through quality service, education, and advocacy.*

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