

CHENANGO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

Date: 3/18/2020

Release Date: Immediate

No Need to Panic

Now that we have a confirmed positive case of Coronavirus aka COVID-19 here in Chenango County, we want to reassure you that the Chenango County Health Department is actively working to monitor the situation. We know that COVID-19 is circulating in the country and in our local community. We know that the disease has probably been here for some time now. This is expected. As testing is ramping up, more cases will be identified as positive. This is also expected.

At the Chenango County Health Department, we have plans set in place to monitor the spread of COVID-19 and we will quarantine the appropriate people in order to protect the public. We are conducting daily disease surveillance and actively working with those persons who are quarantined. We want to reassure you that this plan is well thought out and is established Public Health Practice. We expect the cases of Coronavirus to increase before they decrease. We are prepared for the increase.

We at the Health Department *WANT* to identify the positive cases so we can quickly work to monitor them and their contacts to slow the spread of the disease. We will not be revealing names and locations of individuals that test positive in order to protect their medical confidentiality. Please treat everyone you come across with respect and patience. *TRUST* that we are doing our jobs and monitoring this situation closely. We are confident that our community will get through this difficult time.

For more information about COVID-19:

NYS hotline 1-888-364-3065

SUNY UPSTATE hotline 1-315-464-3979

Bassett hotline 607-547-5555

Promoting and protecting health, safety, and the quality of life in Chenango County