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ACHD Asks Area Governing Boards and Organizations To Support Mask Advisory

(MEXICO) – The Audrain County Health Department (ACHD) is asking Audrain County municipalities and organizations to pass a Resolution of Endorsement to show their support of the ACHD’s issuance of a mask advisory.

“The resolution spells out general support from Audrain County municipality councils and other governing boards of organizations for the mask advisory we issued on November 12th,” ACHD Administrator/CEO Craig Brace said. “We believe if the municipality or organization endorses the advisory, the overall public awareness surrounding the importance of wearing a mask will be elevated.”

Positive cases in Audrain County have risen from 85 active cases on November 6th to a high of 138 on November 16th, to its current number of 132, as of November 23rd.

“These numbers show that we have been experiencing an increasing wave for the past three weeks and every effort should be deployed to slow the spread of the virus,” Brace stated. “We’re hoping by having city and town councils and governing boards of area organizations endorse the public health mask advisory with this resolution, we can, collectively draw attention to the effectiveness of wearing a mask in public where social distancing is not possible.”

Hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19 have also increased along with the active case numbers. As of this past Monday, hospitalizations of Audrain County residents increased to 13 while deaths rose to 11.

“The increase in hospitalizations is placing a strain on area health care systems and, not just because the cases are coming from only residents,” Brace said. “We’re starting to see area hospitals sustaining reductions to their workforce because workers are being isolated and quarantined due to COVID-19. That only makes our response to quelling the disease even more critical. So, this is part of the reason we are asking area boards and organizations to publicly take a position of endorsement for the mask advisory.”

For more information on COVID-19 and how you can help in the fight, go to the health department’s web site at www.audraincountyhealth.org or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov.

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