



Press Release

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Conquering COVID 100 days of planning and response

The global pandemic has changed our world in many ways and significantly impacted businesses, academics, healthcare, travel, entertainment and social networks. June 5, 2020 marks 100 days since Olmsted County activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to organize, understand and respond to COVID-19. Olmsted County Public Health has provided leadership, guidance and recommendations for local actions to mitigate the risks of spreading the virus where we live, work, learn, play and age.

Accomplishments from the first 100 days:

- Planned and implemented new approaches while addressing the associated challenges and continuous changes, and overseeing a multitude of detailed strategies.
- Re-assigned over 55 + FTE's to COVID related work duties and fill 100+ new positions requiring new trainings, work teams, processes and systems.
- Developed and maintained strong partnerships with Mayo Clinic, Olmsted Medical Center, City of Rochester Incident Command Systems for awareness, collaboration and collective decision making (i.e., Graham Park Collaborative Collection Site, Day/Warming Center, and community COVID-19 warmline call center).
- Assured essential services (food, housing, transportation, medication) for dozens of individuals with or exposed to COVID-19 disease and needing to quarantine or isolate at home.
- Provided consultation and guidance to schools, businesses, non-profits, Long term care, correctional health, nonprofit agencies, and others needing clarification or interpretation of CDC or MDH guidelines and Governor Executive Orders.
- Established teams and processes for case contact investigations and monitoring and cluster control and outbreak management.
- Increased surveillance and data analysis to provide insight for improved decision making.
- Provided consultations, webinar trainings, and guidance to schools, businesses, healthcare, faith-based organizations, and local public health agencies.



- Created orientation, safety and informational videos for staff, volunteers and the public.

As we see our nation and state begin to lift restrictions and businesses opening up, continued standard public health precautions are more important than ever. The pandemic is not over, and the simple act of washing your hands, staying home when ill, maintaining 6 feet of separation from others and wearing a cloth face covering will help curtail the spread and demonstrate our resolve to creating a healthy and safe community for everyone.

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About Olmsted County Public Health Services

Olmsted County Public Health Services provides critical services to individuals, families and communities to promote and protect the health of those who live, learn, work, play and age in 8 cities, 18 townships and approximately 150,000 residents. Our 90+ staff partner with government, business, education, healthcare and non-profits to address community health issues and concerns. For more information, visit our [web page](#).