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COVID-19 Press Bulletin for 10-14-2020

Carson City, NV — Today, Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director and Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of Community Health Services, were joined by Dr. Mark Pandori, Chief of Testing, to provide updates on Nevada’s ongoing COVID-19 response, testing and reporting during a teleconference with members of the media.

This bulletin provides facts, figures, and informational items from the call. As a reminder, data is provided in a dashboard on the home page of the Nevada Health Response website and can be accessed 24 hours a day.

SUMMARY:

• As of today, Nevada has logged 87,314 cases, an increase of 479 new cases.
  - 303 or approx. 63.3% were in Clark County
  - 100 or approx. 20.9% were in Washoe County; and
  - 76 or approx. 15.9% were spread throughout the rest of the State.

• Nevada has now completed a total of 1,154,583 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19, an increase of 7,220 since yesterday.
  - The cumulative test positivity rate is at 9.7%. The daily positivity rate is 9.6%.
• For the most recent 7-day period, cases are growing at a rate of 0.7%, or 567 new cases per day. For comparison, the growth rate for the 7-day period ending July 31 was 2.3%, or 1,037 new cases per day.

• Nevada experienced a noticeable decrease in COVID-19 confirmed hospitalizations over the past couple of days.
  o Nevada has approximately 519 hospitalized COVID-19 patients as of yesterday, October 13, 2020. This number includes 369 confirmed patients (this is a decrease of 24 from October 13). There are 150 suspected patients.
  o Hospital conditions remain good.
  ▪ Statewide hospital occupancy rates are at 74%, the ICU occupancy rate is at 59% and ventilator use is at 30% statewide, for all patients.
  o Of all patients requiring ICU level care, 22% are for COVID-19.
  o COVID-19 patients are using 7% of the ventilator inventory.
  o Statewide, relative demand remains low to moderate, with 11% of hospitalized patients having or being suspected of having COVID-19.

• Statewide contact tracing efforts are ongoing, and Nevadans are encouraged to download the COVID Trace app to their smartphone.
  o Since the beginning of COVID, to today, a total of 22,232 cases have been identified as a result of contact tracing efforts. This represents 25.4% of the total cases reported to date.
  o Since June 18, 2020 surge staff have logged a total of 120,479 calls to close contacts.
  ▪ Agents logged a total of 1,668 calls as of 8 p.m. PST on October 13.
  o Related to text messaging of close contacts, the campaign resulted in 2,363 total text message exchanges, with 867 unique
outbound communications and an 84% response rate from unique contacts.

- There have been 47,478 downloads of the COVID Trace app, as of last night.
- The State has been working with Google and Apple on EN Express notification tools through their devices.
  - The Google team sent out a push notification to Android users last evening through the Play Store. Apple is expected to do the same soon.
  - The EN Express notification tool has the same outcome to notify an individual when they have been in proximity to an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 and also had either COVID Trace or EN Notification downloaded.

- Providers, through the State public health laboratory, may request tests that detect a combination of both COVID-19 and the flu.
  - COVID-19 only (SARS-CoV2) will continue to be available.

- With flu season in progress and the unknowns regarding instances of reinfection of COVID-19, experts want to remind people to remain vigilant, particularly by continuing to wear face coverings, practice social distancing and utilize hygiene practices.

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