4-27-20
City of Gary COVID-19 update

Greetings. This is Mayor Jerome A. Prince with the City of Gary COVID-19 update for Apr. 27, 2020.

We continue to operate under Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb’s extended Stay-At-Home order. As I’ve said before, we will continue to monitor state and federal guidelines as we make decisions that affect Gary residents.

As Gov. Holcomb announces changes in his Stay-At-Home order, we will keep Gary residents informed on the City’s responses to the changes.

This weekend, we recorded encouraging numbers in the rate of COVID-19 infection in Gary, but it’s absolutely critical we remain vigilant and not assume our fight against this deadly infection is over. Following are data points on the numbers of COVID-19 positive cases and COVID-19 related deaths in the City of Gary:

- Thu., Apr. 23: 314 COVID-19 positive cases, 11 COVID-19 related deaths
- Fri., Apr. 24: 344 COVID-19 positive cases, 11 COVID-19 related deaths
- Sat., Apr. 25: 364 COVID-19 positive cases, 12 COVID-19 related deaths
- Sun., Apr. 26: 366 COVID-19 positive cases, 12 COVID-19 related deaths

Please remember only through extensive testing will we get a complete picture of the rate of COVID-19 infection in Gary. Because we had very little testing in Gary over the weekend, we still do not know how many Gary residents may have the virus.

We recently learned the Indiana State Department of Health performed 1,357 tests at St. Timothy Church. Testing also continues at Methodist Hospital-Northlake, Community Health Net and Edgewater Systems for Balanced Living.

Beginning this Wednesday, the City of Gary Health Department will begin free up-front COVID-19 testing at 1145 W. 5th Ave.. Residents must have a doctor’s order to be tested, and they should bring in any proof of insurance.

I want to thank our city’s first responders, who put their health and lives on the line everyday to protect our community. The Gary Police Department has recorded three COVID-19 positive results in the police force. One of the officers is asymptomatic, while
the other two are being treated and showing progress. All three officers have been quarantined.

Updates

# of Indiana residents COVID-19 tested: 84,476
# of Indiana residents COVID-19 positive: 15,961
# of Indiana COVID-19 related deaths: 844

# of Lake County residents COVID-19 tested: 7,447
# of Lake County residents COVID-19 positive: 1,586
# of Lake County COVID-19 related deaths: 70

# of Porter County residents COVID-19 tested: 1,552
# of Porter County residents COVID-19 positive: 215
# of Porter County COVID-19 related deaths: 5

# of Gary residents COVID-19 positive: 374
# of Gary COVID-19 related deaths: 12

Information

Residents with COVID-19 related health or medical questions may contact the Indiana State Department of Health Hotline at 877-826-0011 or visit coronavirus.IN.gov.

Businesses with COVID-19 related questions may contact the Indiana Critical Industries Hotline at 877-820-0890 or e-mail them to covidresponse@iedc.IN.gov.

Closing

As always, it is important we continue to use social distancing techniques in our interactions. Please keep a distance of six feet from each other. Please do not greet each other with skin-to-skin contact. Please wash your hands often. Please limit your travel to work and other essential business only.

We have many residents who do not have Internet access and who need the information we share. Please share this information with your family, friends and neighbors while using social distancing techniques.

Finally, if we remain calm and patient, we will get through this together.