



Mayor
Jerome A. Prince
City Of Gary, IN



4-28-20

City of Gary COVID-19 update

Greetings. This is Mayor Jerome A. Prince with the City of Gary COVID-19 update for Apr. 28, 2020.

We continue to operate under Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb's Stay-At-Home order. The City of Gary will continue to monitor state and federal mandates regarding the COVID-19 pandemic as we decide how we will move forward.

The City of Gary Health Department will conduct free up-front testing at 1145 W. 5th Ave., beginning tomorrow, Apr. 29. Visitors must bring doctor's orders for the test as well as proof of health insurance. The department will conduct testing from 9 a.m. to noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Updates

# of Indiana residents COVID-19 tested:	87,181
# of Indiana residents COVID-19 positive:	16,588
# of Indiana COVID-19 related deaths:	901
# of Lake County residents COVID-19 tested:	7,873
# of Lake County residents COVID-19 positive:	1,715
# of Lake County COVID-19 related deaths:	77
# of Porter County residents COVID-19 tested:	1,649
# of Porter County residents COVID-19 positive:	228
# of Porter County COVID-19 related deaths:	5
# of Gary residents COVID-19 positive:	383
# of Gary COVID-19 related deaths:	12

Hometown Heroes

Each day, medical professionals, first responders and other Gary residents on the front-line of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic sacrifice their time and put their health and lives on the line. Nurse Practitioner Sharnita Rice is one of those heroes.

On Apr. 1, Mrs Rice, who worked for 12 years as a nurse before becoming a nurse practitioner last year, travelled to a hospital near Manhattan to help deal with the immense strain of treating patients in a COVID-19 hotspot. In the three weeks of long days and nights that followed, Mrs. Rice worked in a medical-surgical unit for non-critical patients, but she learned about makeshift morgues behind the hospital and saw too many people die from the COVID-19 disease.

“I felt like I wanted to help my fellow nurses,” she said. “It was surreal.”

Mrs. Rice was at the New York City hospital long enough to see many desperately ill patients be admitted and released after intense treatment. Watching those patients go home had Ms. Rice and her colleagues cheering.

When she completes her quarantine period, Mrs. Rice said she plans to return to her work at Methodist Hospital.

On behalf of the residents of the City of Gary, I salute Mrs. Rice for demonstrating courage, for her commitment to providing the best possible care to others, and for giving all Gary residents yet another reason to be proud of one of our own.

Closing

I remind our Gary family, friends and neighbors this fight against the COVID-19 pandemic is not over. There will be times when it seems like the rate of infections from this virus is dropping, and there will be other times when it seems the rate is rising again. We have a long way to go before this is over.

We still must practice strong social distancing techniques, but let’s also commit to helping our neighbors, especially our oldest residents, stay well.

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