



Mayor
Jerome A. Prince
City Of Gary, IN



4-29-20
City of Gary COVID-19 update

Greetings. This is Mayor Jerome A. Prince with the City of Gary COVID-19 update for Apr. 29, 2020.

We continue to operate under Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb's extended Stay-At-Home order. The City of Gary will continue to closely monitor state and federal guidelines and respond accordingly.

The City of Gary Health Department began COVID-19 testing today at the Health Department, 1145 W. 5th Ave. There is no upfront test fee, but visitors are asked to provide proof of insurance. Also, visitors must bring doctors' orders to be tested.

Older people are a vulnerable population in the COVID-19 pandemic. They tend to have a small infection rate, but those who contract the disease tend to die at higher rates. Earlier this week, Gov. Holcomb and the Indiana State Department of Health issued an executive order requiring long-term care facilities, such as nursing homes, skilled nursing and assisted living facilities and residential facilities, to provide daily updates to their residents and their residents' designated representatives. The information should include:

- briefings on how the facility is handling any issues with resident care or staff shortages;
- general information about the COVID-19 virus;
- the number of residents who have tested positive and the number of "new" residents with positive test results from the previous 14 days;
- the number of residents who have died at the facility due to the illness;
- each facility's plans to reduce the risks of COVID-19 transmission;
- daily group e-mails, automated voicemail messages, emails and/or text messages to each resident's designated representative.

The order also requires long-term care facilities to report COVID-19 related information to prospective clients. Anyone who is having problems getting COVID-19 about a loved one in a nursing facility or residential facility may e-mail their concerns to familyoutreach@isdh.in.gov.

Updates

# of Indiana residents COVID-19 tested:	91,550
# of Indiana residents COVID-19 positive:	17,182
# of Indiana COVID-19 related deaths:	964
# of Lake County residents COVID-19 tested:	8,099
# of Lake County residents COVID-19 positive:	1,786
# of Lake County COVID-19 related deaths:	81
# of Porter County residents COVID-19 tested:	1,659
# of Porter County residents COVID-19 positive:	232
# of Porter County COVID-19 related deaths:	6
# of Gary residents COVID-19 positive:	399
# of Gary residents COVID-19 deaths:	12

Information

The Center for Workforce Innovations, based in Valparaiso, Ind., is offering a free online coding course, "HTML and CSS For Beginners," May 4-6, 6-9 p.m. The course will be hosted by the Eleven Fifty Academy. Students will learn how the coding languages HTML and CSS work together to create web pages; how the Internet and cloud work together to deliver web applications; the top developer tools for building web pages, and more. For more information, go to <http://gotoworkonenw.com/news/free-online-coding-course-html-css-for-beginners-may-4-5-6-9pm/>.

Closing

Today, we are reporting 16 new COVID-19 infections. That raises us to nearly 400 positive test results to date. As I have written earlier, there will be days when Gary will record a few new cases, and there will be days when we report new cases in double digits. It is an indication of our inability to predict the spread of this virus. We MUST continue to practice strong social distancing methods, and we must limit our travel to work and essential business only.

We have a long way to go in our fight against the COVID-19 virus, but, if we remain calm and patient, I know we will get through this together.
