March 13, 2020

Bell County Public Health District has identified the first presumptive positive case of COVID19 late last night. The case is in the process of undergoing confirmatory testing with the CDC. The individual is a 29 year old male in Belton with a travel history in Barcelona and Paris from March 4 to March 10. Bell County Public Health has initiated self-isolation protocol and contact tracing for this case. There may be more detail to share going forward and we will provide pertinent information throughout the process. We are in this together.

This puts us in Phase 2 of the Bell County plan. As a reminder that is below from the plan shared by Judge Blackburn in a press release on March 12, 2020:

**Stage 1 (no confirmed cases of COVID19)**
- Stay home if you are sick
- Avoid contact with persons who are sick
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unclean hands
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue and throw the tissue away
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces with a disinfectant
- Don’t travel to areas with active community spread of COVID19
- Wash your hands with soap and water regularly and use hand sanitizers with at least 60% of alcohol content when soap and water are not available

**Stage 2 (a confirmed case of COVID19)**
- All of Stage 1 measures
- Actively practice ‘social distancing’ ... whenever possible maintain 6 feet distance from other persons
- Avoid physical contact with other persons in social and workplace settings

**Stage 3 (community spread of COVID19)**
- All Stage 1 & Stage 2 measures
- Bell County &/or BCPHD may issue orders restricting and/or prohibiting mass gatherings and/or movement of people