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For Immediate Release

A Message from the Logan County Health District to Logan County Businesses:

The Logan County Health District (LCHD) has received numerous questions from employees and concerned citizens regarding what makes a business “essential” and why some businesses can remain open at this time. To allow the LCHD staff to focus on helping the community and families that are impacted by the coronavirus, we are asking all businesses that see themselves as essential, help us by keeping the proper documents up-to-date. You need to document how your business qualifies as essential by citing the specific section from the Ohio Department of Health Director’s Stay At Home Order.

Also, according to the Director’s order, each business must have a written COVID-19 policy that documents how they are protecting the health of their employees. Please document how your business is complying with the following recommendations:

1. Actively encourage sick employees to stay home until they are free of fever (without the use of medication) for at least 72 hours (three full days) AND symptoms have improved for at least 72 hours AND at least seven days have passed since symptoms first began. **Do not require a health department or healthcare provider’s note to validate illness or return to work** to reduce the burden on the healthcare provider at this time. Consider allowing employees who are 60 years and older to work from home.
2. Ensure that sick leave policies are up to date, flexible, and non-punitive to allow sick employees to stay home to care for themselves, children, or other family members. Request employees to do a self-assessment each day for COVID-19 symptoms (cough, fever of 100.4 or higher, or shortness of breath).
3. Separate employees who appear to have respiratory illness symptoms from other employees and send them home immediately.
4. Reinforce key messages to all employees - stay home when sick, use cough and sneeze etiquette, and practice hand hygiene. Provide protection supplies such as soap and water, hand sanitizer, and tissues.
5. Frequently perform enhanced environmental cleaning of commonly touched surfaces by using virus-killing (virucidal) sanitizers, 70% isopropyl alcohol or 10% bleach/water solutions.
6. Maintain strict 6-foot social distancing between employees and visitors in your facility, where possible.
7. Consider leaving doors propped open to reduce the number of high touch areas.

We are asking that these documents are up-to-date and made available to all employees. If we get complaints about your facility, we will be requesting such documentation and making visits to make sure that you are ensuring that your employee’s health and safety are your top priority.

#socialdistancing #washyourhands #coveryourcough #flattenthecurve

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