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For Immediate Release

Our Community has had many challenges over the last two months. We have been in this together and this teamwork has worked well. Another challenge is being presented to every county in Ohio. Starting today, Wednesday, April 15, 2020, all Ohio Long Term Care Facilities (LTCFs) will report COVID-19 cases in their facilities on a weekly basis. Please realize that this does not mean that these facilities are doing anything wrong. This disease is especially difficult to prevent from spreading in group living. LTCFs are an important part of Logan County's healthcare community and they all need our support.

All Long Term Care Facilities have, for many years, used quarantine and isolation practices to keep their residents and staff safe from passing other types of infectious illnesses. Some examples are, Influenza, diarrheal illnesses such as Norovirus. They are good and experienced at what they do in keeping everyone safe.

Once visitors are allowed back into these facilities they **MUST** have a face cover. Cloth face covers are acceptable for visitors. Healthcare workers need masks on at all times. Surgical (ear loop or tie on) masks are fine. N-95 should only be worn in rooms where residents are ill. Here is a link for an adult cloth mask pattern these will be needed throughout our community for some time to come.

<https://loganhealth.org/prod/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SURGICAL-STYLE-3-PLEATS-TEENAGE-TO-ADULT.pdf>

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) will be releasing the name of the facility, what county, and the number of cases associated with that facility. The number of cases will include residents and staff. The data will be held on the www.coronavirus.ohio.gov website and will be updated weekly on Wednesdays at 2 pm.

An example of what this may look like:

Any County Ohio- Midtown Manor – 8

Any County Ohio - Mellodee Place - 6

Any County Ohio - South Carolines - 15

At this time ODH is not including the number of deaths associated with these facilities. That could change at a later date.

#wearyourmask #stayhomeNOW #socialdistancing #washyourhands

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