

Joint Information Center - JIC Release No. 24 March 22, 2020, 8:50 p.m. (ChST)

12 Positive Cases for COVID-19

The Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) tested 35 individuals for COVID-19 on Sunday, March 22, 2020 with conclusive results. Twelve (12) tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 and 23 tested negative for SARS-CoV-2.

A total of 153 tests were performed from March 12, 2020 through March 22, 2020 with conclusive results. To date, a total of 27 cases tested positive and 126 cases tested negative for COVID-19. All 26 remaining confirmed cases are in isolation.

The Government of Guam is aggressively implementing its COVID-19 response to identify and contain transmission of COVID-19 in Guam. The government continues to evaluate the situation to enhance response efforts. With any change in status, anticipate timely notification. As part of the response, DPHSS officials may be calling residents from a local landline or mobile phone number to obtain further information. This is not a scam. DPHSS does not ask for any financial details during the call.

Guam COVID-19 known positive cases consist of imported cases among international travelers and cases among close contacts of a known case. Community transmission is occuring at this time.

Stop the Spread: Stay Home, Keep a Minimum of Six Feet Between You and Others

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. Stop the spread:

- Stay home. Keep away from others who are sick and limit face-to-face contact with others.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Limit visitation to elderly family members, except for caregivers or healers.
- Avoid gathering at social events, supermarkets, or bingo facilities.

Medical Triage Hotline Numbers for COVID-19

If you are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19, please call your healthcare provider. If a patient does not have a regular health care provider, they can call any of the Community Health Centers or the DPHSS Medical Triage Hotline Phone Numbers listed below to report symptoms and obtain guidance from clinicians:

- (671) 480-7859
- (671) 480-6760/3
- (671) 480-7883

• (671) 687-6170 (*ADA Dedicated Number*)

These numbers are operational daily, from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. and are limited to medical-related inquiries only.

DPHSS Counseling Hotline Numbers for COVID-19

DPHSS recommends that those feeling distress or anxiety due to the pandemic call the Counseling Hotlines, which provide live crisis counseling. The phone lines are multilingual, text capable, and confidential:

- (671) 988-5375
- (671) 683-8802
- (671) 686-6032

They will be operational daily, from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. beginning Monday, March 23, 2020.

For media inquiries, contact the Joint Information Center at (671) 478-0208/09/10 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

-###-