



Barry County, Missouri

Health Department and Office of Emergency Management

Joint Press Release – 07.09.2020 1500 hrs.



Barry County announces 2 cases of COVID-19 in a childcare facility.

The Barry County Health Department is reporting that two persons (1-adult and 1-child) at the God's Little Kingdom Preschool in Cassville have tested positive for COVID-19. The cases are a result of community spread. Both persons are under an isolation order and are recovering at home, all close contacts will be under quarantine. Barry County Health Department officials will monitor all of the effected persons daily.

Because of the positive cases and subsequent quarantine, the preschool will remain closed until July 21. During the closure, preschool officials will complete a deep cleaning of the facility and a of review practices to ensure the continued safety of the children and adults at the center. Roger Brock, Barry County Health Department Administrator stated, best practices for childcare programs include, physical distancing, avoiding group activities, maintaining consistent groups of children and adults, face coverings for adults and age appropriate children, staggered drop off and pick up times, and enhanced hand and surface hygiene. Additional information for childcare providers can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/>.

Brock would like to remind residents, "we continue to see an increase of COVID-19 cases in younger adults, it is imperative that everyone make an effort to protect themselves and each other." COVID-19 can appear 2 to 14 days after exposure and include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, fever, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, or a new loss of taste or smell. If you believe, you have symptoms of COVID-19 stay home and call your medical provider.

Barry County Phase 2 Mitigation Rules began June 26 and remains in effect until July 15, 2020. Those rules include required source control masking of service providers; recommends to physical distancing, cloth face coverings, and enhanced hygiene practices. For more information about COVID-19, visit www.cdc.gov/coronavirus, call the Barry County Health Department at **417-847-2114** or the Missouri DHSS 24 hour hotline number at **877-435-8411**.

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