



March 27, 2020

SCPH Media Contact Phone Number: (330) 812-3700

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Summit County Reports Additional COVID-19 Deaths

[Akron, OH] –Summit County Public Health today reports two additional deaths of Summit County residents due to COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus.

The deaths occurred on March 26, 2020 the second death was a resident in their 90s and the third death was a resident in their 70s both individuals recently tested positive for COVID-19. They acquired COVID-19 through community spread.

“Our hearts are heavy as we announce that two more members of the Summit County community have lost their lives to COVID-19,” said Donna Skoda Health Commissioner. “I speak for all of Summit County Public Health when I say the loved ones of these two people are in our thoughts today.”

The cases were originally reported by ODH and the local health department when it was first identified. Any identifiable information will not be released about the patient to respect their family’s privacy.

SCPH has been tirelessly preparing for and responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes reaching out to all known contacts of COVID-19 cases to help prevent the spread of this disease.

It is important to continue to follow standard precautions to prevent the spread of infectious disease. Steps that residents can take to slow the spread of the virus include:

- **Cover your coughs and sneezes** with your elbow or sleeve, or a tissue and then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands afterwards.
- **Washing your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds**, especially after going to the bathroom or before eating. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- **Avoid touching your face** – especially your eyes, nose and mouth – with unwashed hands.
- **Stay home if you have cold- or flu-like symptoms**, for seven days after your illness onset or three days after your fever resolves without fever reducing medicine, and avoid close contact with people who are sick.

For more information about the coronavirus situation in Summit County visit <https://www.scph.org/covid-19>. If you have questions, call the COVID-19 Call Line (330) 926-5795. The call line is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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