

Press Release

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9 Individuals test positive for COVID-19; FDA and CDC approve vaccine booster for ages 5 – 11 years old

June 15, 2022 - Utqiagvik, Alaska: (New cases) As of 12pm today, the Arctic Slope Native Association (ASNA) was notified that two (2) Utqiagvik residents, one (1) non-resident of the North Slope Borough in Utqiagvik, and six (6) residents of a North Slope Borough community have tested positive for COVID-19. **Individuals waiting for test results or have tested positive on a home test kit, please self-isolate.**

(Recovered cases) One (1) individual has met the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and has been released from isolation.

(Active cases) Twenty-three (23) active cases in the ASNA healthcare service area, including non-residents.

Atqasuk - 0

Nuiqsut - 0

Utqiagvik - 11

Kaktovik - 0

Point Lay - 7

Wainwright - 5

(Hospitalizations & Deaths) Due to COVID-19, there are no (0) hospitalizations at Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital (SSMH). SSMH has a cumulative total of ninety-one (91) hospitalizations. The North Slope Borough has a cumulative total of thirteen (13) who have passed away.

(Cumulative total) The North Slope Borough has a cumulative total of three thousand nine hundred forty-six (3,946) resident cases to date.

COVID-19 vaccine walk-ins or appointments are available, please call **SSMH Appointment Line at (907) 852-9156 or (907) 367-6292**. The vaccine has no out-of-pocket costs. SSMH staff are also offering the vaccine in the village clinics. Questions? Please email covidvaccine@arcticslope.org.

SSMH is committed to providing COVID-19 testing. Testing is available every day from 12pm-6pm at the old NSB Transit Station facility at 1710 Ahkovak Street, located near the airport. Tests acquired at SSMH or the testing center are available with no out-of-pocket costs.

The following symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure:

- Cough
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Fever
- Sore throat
- Loss of smell or taste
- Body aches
- Sneezing/Runny Nose
- Stomach ache

SSMH activated its incident command structure on March 16, 2020 to manage the COVID-19 pandemic in the region. SSMH is communicating with regional entities.

Please continue to follow the CDC recommendations against COVID-19. More information on protecting yourself can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov>

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