

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, MD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

Dear _____ Staff:

The Florida Department of Health in Sarasota County (DOH-Sarasota) has been informed of a case of COVID-19 at _____. After an investigation, DOH-Sarasota is notifying staff who were identified as close contacts to the case. A close contact is anyone who had face-to-face contact or shared a small space for a long period of time with an infected person.

You were identified as being exposed to the case. Please monitor yourself for [symptoms of COVID-19](#). If you notice any symptoms, please seek medical care and consider getting tested. **Additionally, you will need to contact the Sarasota Department of Health at 941-861-2873 to obtain a return to work letter.**

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness spread mainly from person-to-person through respiratory droplets which are produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths and noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms which is why keeping exposed individuals separated from others is important.

Symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus. The most common symptoms associated with COVID-19 are fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. If symptoms develop, seek medical care and get tested.

The best way to prevent illness is by limiting exposure to the virus.

- Maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet from others.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face covering when around others.

If you have any questions, please call the Florida Department of Health in Sarasota County at 941-861-2873. More information about COVID-19 is available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on its website www.cdc.gov/covid19.

Sincerely,

Michael Drennon, MSPH, MPA
Epidemiology Program Manager