

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 04-20-20 20

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## **Mid-Michigan District Health Department reports first Gratiot County COVID-19 death**

Ithaca, Stanton, St. Johns- The Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD) is reporting its first death of a Gratiot County resident from COVID-19. The individual was an elderly male with underlying health conditions. He was hospitalized at Covenant Hospital in Saginaw and passed away on April 18.

“Mid-Michigan District Health Department would like to offer its condolences to the family. Our thoughts are with them as they mourn the loss of their loved one,” said MMDHD Health Officer Marcus Cheatham.

Currently, MMDHD has a total of 136 positive COVID-19 cases in its jurisdiction: 104 in Clinton County, 8 in Gratiot County and 24 in Montcalm County. At this time, there have been 9 deaths in MMDHDs jurisdiction: 7 in Clinton County, 1 in Gratiot County and 1 in Montcalm County.

Residents are urged to continue prevention efforts to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Wash hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds, cover you nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing and avoid touching your face. Continue to “Stay home, stay safe” and venture out only if it is absolutely necessary to get prescriptions, food or other essential services. If you must go out, stay at least 6 feet away from others. Everyone should take these precautions and assume the potential to be exposed to COVID-19 exists whenever they are in public.

Residents can call the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 hotline with questions: 888-535-6136. For additional information, please visit [Michigan.gov/Coronavirus](http://Michigan.gov/Coronavirus) or [CDC.gov/Coronavirus](http://CDC.gov/Coronavirus)

*Mid-Michigan District Health Department serves the residents of Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm Counties.*

*We take action to protect, maintain and improve the health of our community.*

*Advancing innovative solutions to achieve healthier outcomes*

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