

DHD#10 REPORTS PUBLIC EXPOSURE SITE ON JULY 13 AT A RETAIL STORE IN MANISTEE

July 15, 2020 – District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) was notified today that an asymptomatic individual was at The Ideal Kitchen on July 13 and later became symptomatic, was tested, and confirmed positive for COVID-19 on July 15.

If you were at this location on July 13, you should self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days from the possible exposure date – through July 27. Anyone that is self-monitoring as a result should keep away from family, close contacts, and roommates as much as possible. COVID-19 symptoms include fever or chills, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath, muscle aches, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and recent loss of taste or smell. Anyone experiencing one or more of these symptoms should immediately quarantine themselves and contact a medical provider.

The Ideal Kitchen owner, Shelley Doyen, told DHD#10 that, upon hearing about the potential exposure, the store was immediately closed on July 14 and thoroughly deep cleaned to mitigate any risk to the public. “We have been following CDC guidelines and disinfecting the store regularly each day since we were allowed to reopen,” Doyen said. “The checkout counter is over 6 feet away from customers, there is very rarely close contact with customers for more than 5 minutes at a time, and all staff are required to wear a face mask at all times. We also take staff temperatures at the beginning of each day and they disinfect surfaces after every client leaves the store.”

While DHD#10 will release information about public exposure sites when it is determined through investigation that it’s not possible to identify all close contacts, everyone needs to remember that approximately 40% of COVID-19 cases appear to be asymptomatic. Asymptomatic cases are especially difficult because they are not sick and therefore not staying home. Additionally, contagious individuals can spread virus prior to experiencing symptoms.

“We are glad to hear that the owners and staff at The Ideal Kitchen are doing everything right to prevent exposure to COVID-19,” said Kevin Hughes, Health Officer for DHD#10. “The measures they are taking should help prevent others from getting the virus. As COVID-19 cases continue to occur in our small rural communities, it is more important than ever for everyone to follow the prevention measures: wearing masks or face coverings, social distancing, and following proper hygiene.”

For more information about COVID-19, go to: www.dhd10.org, www.michigan.gov/coronavirus, or www.cdc.com/coronavirus

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