

DHWCONECTION

A newsletter for the employees of the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare

WHAT IS CONTACT TRACING?

CONTACT TRACING CAN STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

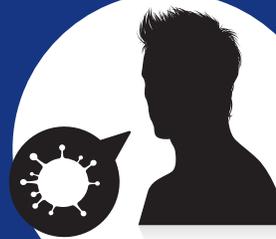
Connecting with individuals who may have been exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 is a **critical piece** of Idaho's plan to safely reopen and contain the spread of disease. As more people are tested, more disease will be discovered, and the spread of the disease will need to be managed and contained in safe, responsible ways.

This process is called **contact tracing**.



COVID-19 PATIENT

ask about contacts



CONTACT NO. 1

If contact shows symptoms, isolate, test and provide care

Ask about contacts

Monitor contacts for symptoms for 14 days

Repeat cycle until no new patients



CONTACT NO. 2

Monitor contact

If contact shows no symptoms after 14 days,

contact not at risk for developing COVID-19



CONTACT NO. 3

Missed contact

May spread COVID-19 to new contacts



CONTACT NO. 4

If contact shows symptoms, isolate, test and provide care

Ask about contacts

If no contacts, no further spread

CONTACT TRACING FINDS NEW CASES QUICKLY SO IDAHO CAN SLOW THE SPREAD

Above: DHW provides resources for the public to explain how contact tracing and the Sara Alert software help to slow the spread of COVID-19.



Volume

22

June 12, 2020

COVID-19 UPDATES

Idaho enters Stage 4 of the Idaho Rebounds Plan, and DHW shares data about long-term care facilities

DHW PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

DHW Voice blog posts inform the public about contact tracing and long-term care facilities

CHILD WELFARE TEAM INNOVATIONS

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Below: DHW shares information through our social media channels to explain the importance and function of contact tracing as we work together to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Participating in **CONTACT TRACING** protects you, your families, friends, and co-workers.

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE



DHW CONNECTION

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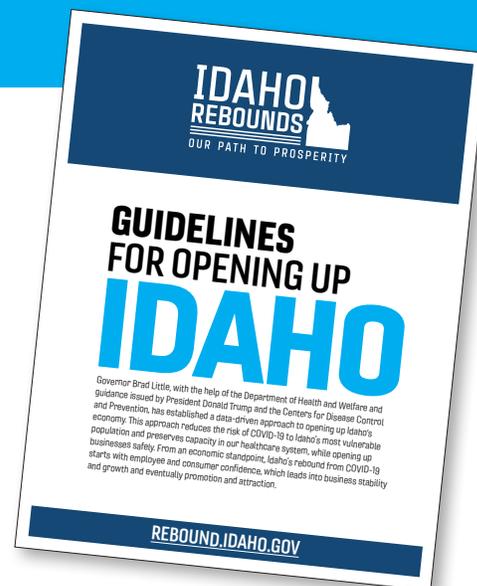
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IDAHO REBOUNDS



OUR PATH TO PROSPERITY



Idaho Rebounds: Our Path to Prosperity

On Thursday, June 11, Gov. Brad Little held a press conference to announce that Idaho has met the criteria to move into Stage 4 of the Idaho Rebounds plan beginning Saturday, June 13.

Although Idaho is reopening, we will continue to see outbreaks until there is a vaccine or proven therapeutic interventions. There may be outbreaks in families, in companies and businesses, and even in healthcare facilities. The virus is still circulating, and it will be with us for the foreseeable future, which is why it's very important for all Idahoans to follow the recommended everyday precautions.

During all stages, all Idahoans should continue to:

- Engage in physical distancing of at least 6 feet
- Wear face coverings in public places
- Stay home if sick
- Practice good hand hygiene
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Disinfect surfaces and objects regularly

Idaho is focused on expanding and targeting access to testing, enhancing contact tracing for all COVID-19 cases, and working to ensure healthcare system capacity. In addition, Idaho continues to hone plans and strategies for preparedness and protecting residents of long-term care facilities from COVID-19.

To date, the following protocols are available at <https://rebound.idaho.gov/business-specific-protocols-for-opening/>.

Stage 1:

- Non-Essential Businesses
- Daycares and Child Care
- Youth Activities
- Places of Worship

Stage 2:

- General Business
- Restaurants
- Close Contact Services
- Indoor Gyms and Recreational Facilities

Stage 3:

- Outdoor pools, splashpads, waterparks
- Bars, breweries, wineries, distilleries
- Indoor movie theatres

Stage 4:

- Gatherings, both public and private, of more than 50 people, where appropriate physical distancing and precautionary measures are observed can occur.
- Nightclubs may operate with diminished standing-room occupancy, where applicable and appropriate.
- Large venues (e.g. sporting venues) can operate under limited physical distancing protocols.

Other (posted at coronavirus.idaho.gov):

- Agricultural Workers
- Onboarding seasonal/temporary worker
- Guidance for Safe Campgrounds
- Interim Guidance for Safe Gatherings and Public Events in Idaho
- Outfitters Services Guidance

Data from long-term care facilities

Data from long-term care facilities with cases and deaths from COVID-19 will be published weekly starting Friday, June 5, at <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/ltc/>. Similar data is also being posted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) at <https://data.cms.gov/stories/s/bkwz-xpvg>

Sara Alert tracing software

To accomplish an expected increased volume of work as more waves of COVID-19 occur, local public health agencies will use data tools to help manage the workload. A system called Sara Alert has been selected as a tool to help manage case investigations, and the contact tracing process, including monitoring, and clusters of disease in Idaho. Sara Alert is a secure, open-source software tool that allows for the self-reporting of any symptom onset for the period of monitoring, up to 14 days. Engagement with public health staff and the tool are voluntary and at the individual's discretion.

Sara Alert does not:

- Track the movements of individuals. There are no plans now or in the future to track the movements of people.
- Use involuntary processes (such as turning on locating information on the patient's phone).
- Does not retain information about contacts after the monitoring period (up to 14 days) ends.

We encourage people to participate if they are contacted by a contact tracer so disease transmission can be monitored and stopped. If people choose to not participate, that makes it more difficult to keep people healthy in the middle of a pandemic.

Keep yourself informed with reliable, accurate information: COVID-19 Data Dashboard

As of June 11, there have been 3,302 confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19, and 86 deaths in Idaho. You can find updates on confirmed cases on coronavirus.idaho.gov. These numbers are updated daily.

Community spread has been announced in 24 Idaho counties: Ada, Bannock, Benewah, Bingham, Bonner, Bonneville, Blaine, Canyon, Cassia, Elmore, Gem, Gooding, Jefferson, Jerome, Kootenai, Lemhi, Lincoln, Madison, Minidoka, Owyhee, Payette, Power, Teton, and Twin Falls counties. That means it is more important than ever for people in those areas to assume the virus that causes COVID-19 is already circulating in those communities and to take the recommended precautions.

The data provided at coronavirus.idaho.gov is what we can accurately offer at this time with the resources we have available. We understand the need for data during the pandemic, and we are working on ways to provide additional data while maintaining its integrity. Please check the website regularly – data will be updated at the dates and time listed in the footnotes. State-level data at <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/> is updated by 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Health district data will be updated on their websites at their discretion.

For more information about why local public health districts may be announcing cases not counted on the state site: <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/127/2020/03/CaseCountDifferences.pdf>

DHW CONTINUES TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES ABOUT COVID-19

With the abundance of information and media about COVID-19 circulating in Idaho, the Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) subject matter experts continue to make accurate, reliable information available to Idahoans. In this series of articles published in the DHW Voice blog, our subject matter experts get into more detail to explain how they're working to help keep Idahoans safe.

The following article originally appeared on the DHW Voice blog on June 2.

CONTACT TRACING IN IDAHO IS IMPORTANT TO SLOWING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

By Dieuwke Dizney-Spencer, deputy administrator for the Division of Public Health

If someone you know or had spent some time with recently tested positive for COVID-19, wouldn't you want to know about that?

Connecting with individuals who may have been exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 is a critical piece of Idaho's plan to safely reopen and contain the spread of disease. As more people are tested, more disease will be discovered, and the spread of the disease will need to be managed and contained in safe, responsible ways. This process is called contact tracing.

Epidemiologists in Idaho's seven local public health districts have been organizing and leading the effort to notify people of their possible exposure to COVID-19 since the beginning of the outbreak. This is a process public health is familiar with and has used to contain communicable diseases for decades.

Here's how it works.

When someone is diagnosed with certain infectious diseases that are [reportable under state law](#), laboratories and healthcare providers report basic information, such as name and birthdate, of the diagnosed person (known as the "index case") to the local and/or state public health agency.

Local public health epidemiologists use that information to contact and interview the diagnosed person. They ask the patient to try to remember everyone they may have been in close contact with while they were infectious. The epidemiologists then reach out to or contact those people,

which is why they are called "contacts."

To protect patient privacy, contacts are only informed that they may have been exposed to someone who had the infection. They are not told the identity of the patient who may have exposed them. All the interviews of contacts are voluntary. During the interviews, medical evaluation, treatment, and self-isolation are discussed and recommended, depending on the potential exposure to the disease.

Patients and contacts always get to decide how they will participate in this process, but public health staff are always grateful when they share as much information as possible because it helps lower the number of people who might get infected. Contact tracing helps people help others – it allows people to make informed decisions about their health, their potential exposures, and disease status, and allows them to take actions to protect themselves and others.

It is routinely done for infections such as HIV, pertussis, tuberculosis, salmonellosis, and gonorrhea.

And now, COVID-19.

The emergence of COVID-19 and its rapid spread has highlighted the importance of people helping public health quickly identify and address COVID-19 cases and contacts. For each case of the disease, the index case is interviewed by local public health as soon as possible to identify close contacts. For COVID-19, close contacts are people the original person (or index case) encountered in the two days before or during their illness, and who were within six feet of that person for more than 10 minutes.

Those who had close contact with the original person are interviewed and recommended to stay home, self-isolate, and monitor themselves for symptoms of illness until 14 days after the last time they were in close contact with the person, in case they also become ill. To the extent possible, public health staff check in regularly with them to make sure they are self-monitoring and have not developed symptoms. Those who develop symptoms are advised to seek medical care.

We are anticipating that more waves of COVID-19 may happen in the coming months, or in the fall. If those waves happen, the workload for local public health staffs will increase significantly.

To accomplish the anticipated increased volume of work, local public health agencies will increase their staff size and use tools to help manage the workload. A system called Sara Alert has been selected to help manage case investigations and contact tracing. Sara Alert is a secure digital tool, which people use to report symptoms (or lack thereof) via text, email, or phone call for the time they are watching for symptoms, up to 14 days. It is, in essence, a data management tool to help with a potentially large volume of people. All engagement with public health staff and the tool

are at the patient's discretion.

Sara Alert does not:

- Track patient movements. There are no plans to track patient movements now or in the future.
- Use involuntary processes (such as turning on locating information on the patient's phone).
- Retain information about contacts after the monitoring period (up to 14 days) ends.

In addition to Sara Alert, the local public health districts employ epidemiologists who regularly do contact tracing. Many of the districts also are planning to or are currently adding staff through hiring, training students, and/or volunteers from the Medical Reserve Corps.

We encourage people to participate if they are contacted by local public health, so disease transmission can be identified and. Participation helps protect you, your families, friends, and co-workers.



Above: Dieuwke Disney-Spencer prepares to answer questions on the DHW's Facebook Live event, which has been viewed more than 3,000 times. Dieuwke is a deputy administrator in the Division of Public Health. She is working closely with Idaho's seven local public health districts on the state's strategy and plan for increasing the capacity for COVID-19 contact tracing.



IDAHO PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS WORK CLOSELY WITH **LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES** TO HELP SLOW THE SPREAD OF **COVID-19**

By Tamara Prisock and Dr. Marcia Witte

Originally published in the DHW Voice blog on June 9.

Like other states around the country, Idaho has unfortunately had cases and deaths related to COVID-19 in long-term care facilities since the start of the pandemic in Idaho in mid-March.

The virus that causes COVID-19 is particularly dangerous for the vulnerable residents of those facilities, which include skilled nursing homes, assisted living and memory care, and intermediate care facilities. Idaho has about 400 of those facilities.

Public health officials at the state and local public health districts continue to work closely with long-term care facilities throughout the state to make sure they have access to testing, personal protective equipment (PPE), and the latest guidance for how to slow or stop transmission of COVID-19 for these highly vulnerable people. Much of this guidance has been posted at <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/ltc/>.

But it has been challenging. The virus that causes COVID-19 is new, and the world is still learning how to treat and contain it. It is such a contagious virus that it can spread easily among vulnerable residents in congregate living facilities. A confirmed COVID-positive resident in a facility is not necessarily a reflection of the quality of care or the performance of that facility.

Long-term care facilities have received guidance on how to respond to even a single positive COVID-19 case among residents or staff members, so that appropriate precautions are taken for all residents. In addition, all residents and their families are to be notified by the facility when a resident or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.

Testing residents and staff in long-term care facilities for COVID-19 is an important strategy to diagnose the infection early and prevent further spread. Testing specimens from residents of long-term care facilities who have symptoms compatible with COVID-19 has always been considered high priority at the Idaho Bureau of Laboratories.

The local public health districts have worked closely with facilities in their areas to ensure access to testing for symptomatic residents and staff members, at a minimum, including procuring adequate testing supplies. A lack of supplies early in the outbreak in Idaho was a challenge, but that is currently not as big a concern. There are now more testing options available, and the Long-Term Care Facility Strike Team has developed testing strategy guidance.

The department is committed to being open and transparent. We also are committed to protecting the privacy of individuals. It can be a challenge to balance these two priorities, particularly for residents of long-term care facilities. We have been working for some time to find a solution that does both, particularly as the number of cases has increased.

Continues on page 8

Recently, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) began posting COVID-19 nursing home data at <https://data.cms.gov/stories/s/bkwz-xpvg>. Similarly, the Department of Health and Welfare is now posting data from long-term care facilities with cases and deaths from COVID-19 weekly on Fridays at <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/ltc/>.

You may notice that the data may not match if you're comparing the numbers, but we are confident that the numbers posted by the Department of Health and Welfare accurately reflect the impact of COVID-19 in Idaho's long-term care facilities. We continue to work diligently to help make sure long-term care facilities have the necessary tools to help prevent more COVID-19 cases and deaths among this special population of vulnerable Idahoans.



Above: Tamara Prisock (left) and Dr. Marcia Witte (right) prepare to answer questions on DHW's Facebook Live event on June 10. Tamara is the administrator of the Division of Licensing and Certification in the Department of Health and Welfare, which has regulatory authority over long-term care facilities. She is also a co-chair on the Long-Term Care Strike Team. Marcia is an internal medicine physician who works for the Division of Public Health and co-chairs the strike team.



Between the DHW Connection and my regular updates on Tuesday and Friday, I hope you feel you are getting the information that helps you understand the importance of your work and keeps you connected to others within the department. If you have questions or anything you would like me to address, please email communications@dhw.idaho.gov or [Ask the Big Boss](#). Today, I hope you will take time to:

- Read the column on contact tracing written by Dieuwke Disney-Spencer and previously posted on the [DHW Voice blog](#). This information will help you explain contact tracing to your friends, neighbors, and family. We know there is misinformation circulating, so this column can help you explain what contact tracing is and isn't to those who have questions.
- In a first, we have a column by two of our employees that was posted on the [DHW Voice blog](#) and featured on FB Live. Tamara Prisock, division administrators for Licensing & Certification, and Dr. Marcia Witte, Division of Public Health, explain how we are working with long-term care facilities to slow the spread of COVID-19.
- Get a glimpse of how the Child Welfare team adjusted to teleworking with video visits.
- Keep up to date with all the news related to COVID-19 (featured in all issues of DHW Connection for the foreseeable future).

Enjoy your weekend and stay safe out there.

Dave Jeppesen, Director



Residential Assisted Living Facility Program

This program ensures that businesses that provide residential care or assisted living services to Idaho residents comply with state statute and rules. In Idaho, the residents of residential care or assisted living

facilities include 60 percent private-pay residents and 40 percent Medicaid participants. The primary diagnosis of people in these facilities include 45 percent elderly, 34 percent Alzheimer's/dementia, 13 percent mental illness, 3 percent developmental disability, 1 percent traumatic brain injury, and 4 percent physical disability or other need for assisted care.

There are 367 facilities in Idaho, operating under 281 licenses, and representing 10,528 beds. Facilities range in size from six to 160 beds. The average building size has been increasing each year, with most of the facilities being constructed with 50 or more beds. Many small facilities, particularly those that serve people with mental illness, have closed. The program enforces compliance

with state rules to promote better health outcomes, and works closely with residents, families, partners in the industry, advocates, other governmental agencies, and stakeholders to ensure safe and effective care to residents.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic also brought to light how nimble this team is. With the Governor's Stay Healthy Order, normal survey activity for the assisted living team, as well as other teams in the Division of Licensing and Certification, was suspended with the exception of investigating complaints alleging immediate danger to residents.

The assisted living team didn't miss a beat switching from a largely regulatory role to a role of support to assisted living facilities as they navigated the uncharted waters of COVID-19. Working closely with the state Coronavirus Long-term Care Strike Team, Jamie Simpson and her Residential Assisted Living Facilities team have worked hard to help facilities connect to their local health departments, ensure facilities received guidance in several areas related to preventing transmission of the virus, help facilities trouble-shoot specific situations where facilities were unsure how to proceed, and execute many other critical tasks that support assisted living facilities during this difficult time.

Stylebook Corner

DHW Style: *Know your audience*

The more you understand your audience, the more powerful your communications will be. It means not only understanding the demographics of your target audience but also their needs and values. Knowing who your audience is will help you create a message your audience will understand and act upon.

On page 21 in the [Brand & Editorial Stylebook](#), there are tips on how to write for your audience. For example:

- **What is important to them?** What are they trying to accomplish, and what do they need to do this? Do they need detailed information or basic instructions?
- **Do you have more than one audience?** Often, our public-facing messages are written for the people of Idaho and our legislators. When communicating with multiple audiences, it is necessary to use language suitable for all audiences, to meet all their needs.
- **What do they need from your communication?** Do they need information to complete a task? Motivation to make a change in their life? Reassurance they are making a good decision?

Most importantly, remember it is always important to use people-first language. This helps to make sure that people with and without disabilities feel comfortable and respected. People-first language focuses on the person rather than the disability. It avoids promoting generalizations, assumptions, and stereotypes.

People-first language refers to the person first and the disability second. For example, it's saying "a child with autism" rather than "the autistic." It may be offensive to use the terms "the disabled" or "a disabled person." Instead, use the terms "people with disabilities" or "an individual with a disability." Refer to the [Northwest Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) Center for guidance](#) on using people-first language.

Brand & Editorial Stylebook

Office of Communications | May 2020



DHW KEEPS IDAHOANS UPDATED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA



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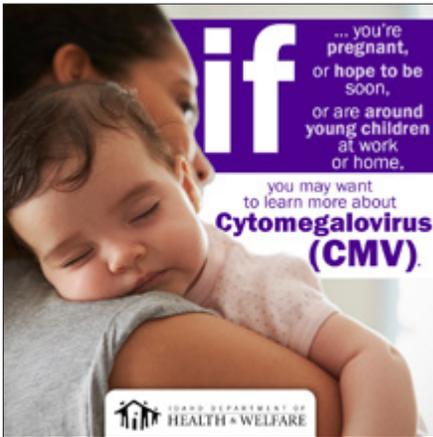
Help for Idaho childcare providers is available

applications are due by **June 30**



DHWVoice
Promoting and protecting the health and safety of Idahoans

DHWVoice | DHWBLOG.COM



if ... you're pregnant, or hope to be soon, or are around young children at work or home, you may want to learn more about **Cytomegalovirus (CMV)**.

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE



CONTACT TRACING
is **not** cyber tracking

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE



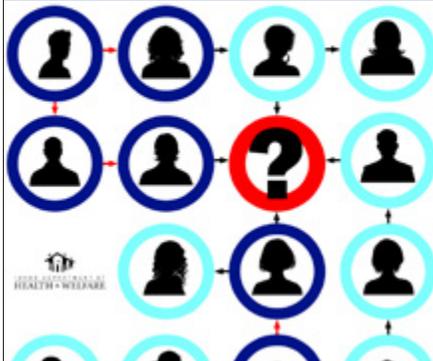
LEARN MORE
Get the facts about **COVID-19**

DHWVoice | DHWBLOG.COM



Childcare Providers
Idaho Child Care Emergency Grant applications are due by **June 30**

If you were exposed to **COVID-19**, wouldn't you want to know?



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE



DIRECTOR DAVE JEPPESEN'S Weekly Update

DHWVoice | DHWBLOG.COM

As part of the effort to keep Idahoans informed about COVID-19 and related issues, the department has ramped up communications efforts on DHW social media channels. Our social media following continues to grow, and we now have nearly 22,000 followers on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn. With so many Idahoans engaging with us through social media, it's an important tool for the department's messaging. Remember that following and sharing the department's messages externally will help the people of Idaho get accurate and up-to-date information.

As of Thursday, June 11, the campaigns featured regularly are focused on the following:

- Contact tracing: how does it work?
- Learn more: Get the facts about COVID-19 on the DHW blog
- Keep doing your part to reopen Idaho
- Help for Idaho childcare providers available
- Learn more about cytomegalovirus

Facebook Live

The department hosts a Facebook LIVE event every Wednesday at 10 a.m., where our experts answering questions for DHW followers. In the broadcast on Wednesday, June 3, Deputy Division Administrator for Public Health Dieuwke Disney-Spencer discussed contact tracing and COVID-19.

On June 10, Tamara Prisock and Dr. Marcia Witte, co-chairs of the Coronavirus Long-Term Care Strike Team, answered questions about long-term care facilities and COVID-19.

DHW Voice

Director Jeppesen prepares an update for Idahoans each Friday to share on [DHW Voice blog](https://www.idahodhw.com/blog) for the public.

CHILD WELFARE TEAM GETS CREATIVE TO MAINTAIN LEVELS OF SERVICE DURING THE PANDEMIC

In Director Jeppesen's June 2 email to all DHW staff, he highlighted some of the new practices and adjustments being undertaken by many divisions as they continue serving Idaho families. One example of this was highlighted by the Child Welfare team, who had a big hurdle in front of them during the Stay-Home Order to make sure children in foster care could continue parent visits.

Beginning in March through mid-May, the Child Welfare team moved to video visits between parents and children. While this was challenging for families, they also heard countless stories of the opportunities it actually increased contact between parents and children and provided an opportunity for foster parents to engage more with parents and see them in a different light.

The team also moved to video visits between children placed in foster homes and their social workers. This also provided

an opportunity for workers to engage with children differently, and in some ways, more effectively. The Child Welfare team staff are now back to visiting these homes—following specific guidance and precautions.

The department was able to increase foster care reimbursement for the month of May (and will again in June) in the amount of an additional \$100 per child each month.

Foster parent training was moved to a virtual format.

Child Welfare team members contacted the older youth we are serving via our Independent Living Program to ensure those who are attending colleges and universities had a place to stay when the schools shut down.

Finally, the team has worked with local service providers to maximize the use of telehealth for parents and children's services.



Above, from left: Joelle Tavares, Colin Gildea, Larry Laws, Stacy Yaegar from the Region 1 Client Services Technicians team get creative with non-verbal communication as they demonstrate responsible face covering in the workplace.

CHILD WELFARE TEAM GETS CREATIVE TO MAINTAIN LEVELS OF SERVICE DURING THE PANDEMIC



Top left: Kendra Woosley (left) and LaShae Hamilton (right), in Pocatello, take a moment to clean their workspace.

Clockwise from top right: Client Service Technicians Paulina Lopez, Britanee Taylor, Lucy Reyes, and Kim Shaffer display their animal alter-ego selfies in their workspace.

SERVICE AWARDS NEWSLETTER

HONORING THOSE WHO HAVE REACHED SERVICE MILESTONES

Volume 10, Issue 4 • April 2020



The Service Awards Newsletter features several employees with April anniversaries, including features **Stuart Moser** (25 years), **Michele Carreras** (20 years), and **Heather Slavin** (20 years). [Click here to see more employees who have earned service awards.](#)

BATS IN THE BUILDING?

Keeping people and bats safe in DHW buildings

Almost every summer bats are found inside Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) buildings. Their presence can disrupt the workplace, and if handled improperly, could be dangerous to staff and to the bat. Bats should only be removed by people trained to handle them safely and humanely. Because bats can potentially expose staff to rabies, a virtually 100 percent fatal infection if left unmanaged, staff should always avoid contact with bats.

What should YOU do if you SEE a bat on your floor, lobby, bathroom, or balcony?

PROTECT YOURSELF, PROTECT THE BAT

LEAVE THE BAT ALONE: DO NOT try to catch or shoo away a flying bat and DO NOT pick up or touch a resting bat, even if it lands on your desk; just move away and place a phone call for assistance from a safe distance (see below). If you have any contact with a bat, the bat will be killed for rabies testing. Messing with the bat will stress the animal and a stressed bat is more likely to fly around, bite someone, or die. Do NOT poke it to see if it is still alive, do NOT knock it off the wall or ceiling, do NOT startle it by taking flash photos, do NOT pet it even if it looks cute, and DO NOT crowd around it.

ALWAYS CONTACT the FACILITIES TEAM FIRST:

Please contact the Facilities team directly to alert them of a bat in the building and one of them will go immediately to the floor. The Facilities team can be reach via email OR phone:

- **EMAIL:** COfacilities@dhw.idaho.gov
- **PHONE:** Frank Michaelson 208-334-5569 (c: 208-559-1532)
Sara Shultz 208-334-5560 (c: 208-910-9405)
Tom Long 208-334-5563 (c: 208-830-8047)



The Facilities team will alert the following of the bat situation: 1) Bureau of Communicable Disease Prevention (BCDP), Epidemiology Section (4th Floor PTC building); 2) Administrative Services Manager; and 3) Management Services DA.

If Facilities team members are unavailable, call the Epidemiology Section directly (208-334-5939) and ask to speak with an epidemiologist who can assist in assessing the situation, including bat removal.

For more information on rabies, visit: Idaho Department of Health and Welfare: Rabies Information: <http://rabies.dhw.idaho.gov>.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Rabies, Bats <http://www.cdc.gov/rabies/bats/education/>

For more general information on bats, see: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Nongame Leaflet #11: Idaho's Bats – Description, Habitats, and Conservation, <https://idfg.idaho.gov/old-web/docs/wildlife/nongame/leafletBat.pdf>

How to deal with a bat in the home. Idaho Department of Fish and Game video: <https://idfg.idaho.gov/blog/2017/06/i-found-bat-my-home-what-do-i-do>

Bat Conservation International, <http://batcon.org/>

Idaho Tax Day is June 15, 2020

The extended deadline is nearly here! Don't forget to send in your Idaho tax return if you haven't already. The federal tax return deadline is a month later: July 15, 2020.

Northwest Conference on Complicated and Severe Psychiatric Presentations cancelled

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and the possibility of a resurgence occurring in the autumn, that State Hospital North we will be cancelling this year's Northwest Conference on Complicated and Severe Psychiatric Presentations, which was scheduled for Sept. 10 and 11, 2020 at the Best Western in Orofino, Idaho. The event organizers are looking to re-schedule for next year, potentially August or September 2021, and will keep everyone updated.

8734

Don't Staple **IDAHO** State Tax Commission **Form 40** **2019** **Individual Income Tax Return**

Amended Return? Check the box. See page 7 of instructions for the reasons to amend and enter the number that applies. State Use Only

For calendar year 2019 or fiscal year beginning _____, ending _____

Please Print or Type	Your first name and initial	Your last name	Your Social Security number (SSN)	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased in 2019
	Spouse's first name and initial	Spouse's last name	Spouse's Social Security number (SSN)	<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased in 2019
	Current mailing address			Forms and instructions available at tax.idaho.gov
	City	State	ZIP Code	

Filing Status. Check only one box. If married filing jointly or separately, enter spouse's name and Social Security number above.

1. Single 2. Married filing jointly 3. Married filing separately 4. Head of Household 5. Qualifying widow(er) with qualifying dependents

Household. See instructions, page 7. If someone can claim you as a dependent, leave line 6a blank. Enter "1" on lines 6a and 6b, if they apply.

6a. Yourself _____ 6b. Spouse _____ 6c. Dependents _____ 6d. Total Household _____

List your dependents below. If you have more than four dependents, continue on Form 39R. Enter total number on line 6c.

Dependent's first name	Dependent's last name	Dependent's SSN	Dependent's birthdate (mm/dd/yyyy)

Income. See instructions, page 7.

Don't Staple	7. Enter your federal adjusted gross income from federal Form 1040 or 1040-SR, line 8b. Include a complete copy of your federal return	7	00
	8. Additions from Form 39R, Part A, line 7. Include Form 39R	8	00
	9. Total. Add lines 7 and 8	9	00
	10. Subtractions from Form 39R, Part B, line 23. Include Form 39R	10	00
	11. Qualified business income deduction	11	00
	12. Total Adjusted Income. Subtract lines 10 and 11 from line 9	12	00

Tax Computation. See instructions, page 8.

Don't Staple	13. Check <input type="checkbox"/> a. If age 65 or older <input type="checkbox"/> Yourself <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> b. If blind <input type="checkbox"/> Yourself <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> c. If your parent or someone else can claim you as a dependent, check here and enter zero on line 43 <input type="checkbox"/>			
		14. Itemized deductions. Include federal Schedule A. Federal limits apply	14	00
		15. State and local income or general sales taxes included on federal Schedule A	15	00
	16. Subtract line 15 from line 14. If you don't use federal Schedule A, enter zero	16	00	
	17. Standard deduction. See instructions, page 8, to determine amount if not standard	17	00	
	18. Subtract the larger of line 16 or 17 from line 12. If less than zero, enter zero	18	00	
	19. Idaho taxable income. Enter amount from line 18	19	00	
	20. Tax from tables or rate schedule. See instructions, page 52	20	00	

Continue to page 2.

MAIL TO: Idaho State Tax Commission, PO Box 56, Boise, ID 83756-0056
 Include a complete copy of your federal return.

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In the news this week: Coronavirus testing and data, Gov. Brad Little's four-phase plan for reopening the Idaho economy, and DHW services and news

Coronavirus testing, cases, and contact tracing

We continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation in Idaho very closely. To keep yourself informed about the latest developments relating to COVID-19, and to access trustworthy resources, visit coronavirus.idaho.gov or rebound.idaho.gov. Both websites are updated frequently.

June 4, 2020 Idaho Press

Idaho sees jump in new coronavirus cases for two straight days...

June 4, 2020 KMVT

Idaho health officials explain latest contact tracing efforts, use of "Sara Alert" system

June 3, 2020 Idaho Statesman

"Social gatherings" contributed to recent rise in coronavirus cases in East Idaho

June 1, 2020 Boise State Public Radio

Idaho Governor celebrates testing strategy, but questions about implementation remain

June 1, 2020 Idaho Statesman

Ada County sees significant drop in confirmed coronavirus cases in month of May

June 1, 2020 East Idaho News

East Idaho sees first death related to COVID-19

Gov. Brad Little's Stay Healthy Order and plan to re-open the economy

As Idaho has moved from the Stay-Home Order and into the Stay Healthy Order and four-phase plan to re-open the economy, the media has covered our progress and reported on the economic impact.

June 11, 2020 Idaho Statesman

Idaho Gov. Little moves forward with reopening plan amid COVID-19 pandemic

June 9, 2020 Idaho Press

As cases, health care worker infections rise, officials ponder Stage 4 reopening

June 2, 2020 Big Country News

Idaho Child Care Emergency Grant has provided over \$1.5 million for childcare providers; applications still being accepted

June 2, 2020 Big Country News

KinderCollege at LCSC receives \$14,940 grant to help program re-open

May 28, 2020 Idaho Statesman

Little moves Idaho into Stage 3 of reopening plan: Bars, theaters back in business

May 27, 2020 Idaho Press

Officials issue guidance for safe gatherings, events

May 27, 2020 Idaho Statesman

Idaho's move to Stage 3 of rebound likely hinges on positive testing percentage

COVID-19 in care facilities

Cases of COVID-19 have been reported by the media as being especially problematic in vulnerable communities, such as in nursing homes.

June 6, 2020	Lewiston Tribune COVID-19 has struck 25 Idaho care centers
June 5, 2020	Lewiston Tribune State officials say more than 60 percent of COVID-19 deaths in Idaho have been related to care facilities
June 5, 2020	Idaho Statesman Idaho records show 289 COVID-19 cases, 52 deaths in 25 nursing homes and care facilities
June 3, 2020	Idaho Statesman Public records law is not on Idaho's side when it comes to nursing home records
May 29, 2020	Idaho Statesman Idaho Statesman demands state health officials say which nursing homes had coronavirus
May 28, 2020	Idaho Statesman Only 1 public health agency in Idaho will say which nursing homes were hit with coronavirus

DHW news and services for Idahoans during COVID-19

While many businesses and services have had to close their doors during the COVID-19 outbreak, the department continues to stay open to serve Idahoans. We have responded to our customers' needs for information and health services, which are especially important today.

June 7, 2020	Idaho Press Shining a light: Leora Murphy, "Immunization Champion"
June 7, 2020	KMVT A closer look at how emotional support animals can help with mental health
June 5, 2020	KBOI Boise woman accused of harming two children, 11 and 12, with medication
June 3, 2020	Idaho State Journal Pandemic hasn't increased local suicides, but officials say it's greatly impacted mental health
June 3, 2020	Post Register Court: Idaho must let trans people change their birth certificates
June 1, 2020	Boise State Public Radio Judge: Idaho still cannot automatically bar transgender people changing birth certificates

Administrative rules

Gov. Brad Little has signed an emergency declaration to aid in the COVID-19 response effort in Idaho. Under Section 46-1008(5)(a), Idaho Code, Gov. Little may suspend the provisions of any regulations that would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency.

Here is a [list of the rules that have been waived or suspended](#) for the Department of Health and Welfare to facilitate the state's response to the current emergency.