



BRISTOL BAY AREA HEALTH CORPORATION – INCIDENT COMMAND

Media Contact:

Jennifer De Winne, Public Information Officer
BBAHC Incident Command
907-842-9551
jdewinne@bbahc.org.

December 24, 2020
For Immediate Release

SEVEN (7) COVID-19 CASES & VACCINE UPDATE

DILLINGHAM, ALASKA – SEVEN (7) new positive cases of COVID-19 were reported by the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation between December 20-23, 2020.

The seven cases are located in two separate villages. In one village, an individual was experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19 and tested positive for the disease. Two of their close contacts also tested positive. These cases were related to travel outside of the region. Four individuals in another village and are close contacts of one another tested positive for COVID-19. All households have been notified and are in quarantine.

BBAHC plans to receive the first batch of COVID-19 vaccines the week of December 28th. The vaccines will be administered soon after to frontline healthcare workers in accordance with State of Alaska guidelines. Future distributions of vaccines will follow state and federal guidelines starting with frontline healthcare workers followed by essential workers and elders. The State of Alaska website has specific information about the vaccines and the distribution phases at <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/vaccine.aspx>.

Through the holiday season, BBAHC asks that residents take the best care that they can in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the region by practicing **all 3 W's** to be safe:

- Wear a mask
- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Watch your space – keep 6 feet apart and limit group activities with people outside of your household.

We appreciate the continued collaboration with the Alaska State Epidemiology Public Health Team, community leaders, and the village health clinics within the Bristol Bay region to provide quality care to all.

###

BBAHC's mission is to provide quality healthcare with competence, compassion, and sensitivity to all residents of the 28 villages it serves within the Bristol Bay Region of Alaska.

For more information, go to bbahc.org.