DIRECTIVE OF THE NAPA COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER
REQUIRING ALL PERSONS EXPOSED TO INDIVIDUALS DIAGNOSED WITH OR LIKELY TO HAVE COVID-19 TO SELF-QUARANTINE

(QUARANTINE DIRECTIVE)
DATE OF DIRECTIVE: JUNE 17, 2020

Summary: It is now well established that the virus that causes Coronavirus 2019 Disease ("COVID-19") is easily transmitted, especially in group settings, and that the disease can be extremely serious. It can require long hospital stays and, in some instances, cause long-term health consequences or death. It can impact not only those known to be at high risk but also other people, regardless of age or risk factors. This is a global pandemic causing untold societal, social, and economic harm. The spread of COVID-19 is a substantial danger to the health of the public within Napa County (the "County"). Individuals in close contact with a person diagnosed with or likely to have the virus that causes COVID-19 may themselves easily become infected and may then inadvertently spread the virus, even if they have no symptoms, mild symptoms, or will develop symptoms later. To help slow COVID-19’s spread, protect vulnerable individuals, and prevent the healthcare system in the County from becoming overwhelmed, it is necessary for the County’s Health Officer to require the self-quarantine of persons who have had close contact with a person diagnosed with or likely to have the COVID-19 virus. Quarantine separates individuals who were significantly exposed to the COVID-19 virus from others until it is determined that they are not at risk for spreading the virus. This self-quarantine requirement protects everyone in the County, including people who especially vulnerable, such as older adults and people with weakened immune systems.

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, 120175, 120215, 120220, AND 120225, THE NAPA COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER ("HEALTH OFFICER") DIRECTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. All persons who know that they are a “Close Contact” of a “Person With COVID-19” are required by this Directive to take the actions listed in Section 2, unless they are exempt under Section 3.

   a. A “Close Contact” means a person who:

      i. Lived in or stayed at the same residence as the person with COVID-19; OR

      ii. Was an intimate sexual partner of the person with COVID-19; OR

      iii. Stayed within 6 feet of the person with COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes or more while the person with COVID-19 was not wearing a face mask; OR
iv. Had direct contact for any amount of time with the body fluids and/or secretions of the Person With COVID-19 (e.g., was coughed or sneezed on, shared utensils with, or was provided care or provided care for them without wearing a mask, gown, and gloves).

b. “Person With COVID-19” means a person who meets any of the following criteria:

i. The person has a positive lab test for the COVID-19 virus; OR

ii. The person has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 that are not explained by another preexisting condition within 14 days of that person being in Close Contact with another person with known COVID-19; OR

iii. The person has been informed by a healthcare provider that the person has or is likely to have COVID-19.

A person is no longer considered a Person With COVID-19 once at least 72 hours have passed since recovery. Recovery is defined as (1) resolution of fever without use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of respiratory symptoms, AND (2) at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared. A person who tested positive for COVID-19 but never had symptoms is no longer considered a Person With COVID-19 after 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive test.

2. A Close Contact of a Person With Covid-19 must take the following actions:

a. The person must self-quarantine in that person’s residence or another residence, such as a hotel or motel. Napa County will provide quarantine locations for persons without adequate shelter. The self-quarantine must last until fourteen (14) days have passed from the last date that the person in self-quarantine was in Close Contact with the Person With COVID-19. The person in self-quarantine is required to quarantine for the entirety of the 14-day period, because that individual is at high risk for developing the disease and spreading the COVID-19 virus, even if the individual does not have symptoms or has only mild symptoms.

b. The person must carefully review and closely follow all home quarantine guidelines listed in the “Home Isolation and Quarantine Guidelines for People with Coronavirus-2019 (COVID-19) Infection and their Household or Close Contacts” issued by Napa County Public Health, a copy of which is attached to this Directive and which is available online here: https://www.countyofnapa.org/2739/Coronavirus. (Any future changes to the home quarantine guidelines posted online automatically become part of this Directive without any need to amend or revise this Directive.) However, if the person in quarantine becomes sick with onset or worsening of fever, respiratory symptoms such as coughing, difficulty breathing, or shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of the sense of smell or taste, or other symptoms of COVID-19 (even if the symptoms are very mild), that person will be subject to the Isolation Directive, which is attached to this Quarantine Directive for use if needed. The ill person should stay away from any other people in the household who are not ill and follow the home isolation guidelines listed in the “Home Isolation and Quarantine Guidelines for People with Coronavirus-2019 (COVID-19) Infection and their Household or Close Contacts.” Isolation is necessary to protect others from
possible infection, because once a person in quarantine begins experiencing these symptoms, it is likely that they have the COVID-19 virus and can spread the virus to others. The person in self-quarantine who experiences COVID-19 symptoms should also consult their regular healthcare provider via telephone or other remote methods and, in the case of a medical emergency, seek emergency medical care.

3. This Directive excludes the following groups:

   a. Individuals with special needs who require specialized care are categorically exempt from this Directive.

   b. Essential COVID-19 Response Workers are exempt from this Directive and should consult with their employers about the procedures and precautions they should follow if they are a Close Contact of a Person with COVID-19.

   c. “Essential COVID-19 Response Workers” means persons who knowingly come into professional contact with Persons With Covid-19 to provide protection or care to such persons, or who are otherwise directly necessary to respond to the public health emergency, including:

      i. All healthcare workers, including but not limited to physicians, registered nurses, respiratory therapists, all hospital and medical clinic support staff, laboratory personnel collecting or handling specimens from known or suspected COVID-19 patients, and morgue workers;

      ii. First responders, including police and sheriff personnel, firefighters, medical examiners, paramedics, Emergency Medical Technicians, emergency management personnel, and necessary support staff;

      iii. Law enforcement, including custodial officers in jails and prisons;

   iv. Individuals who work in long-term care facilities;

   v. Individuals who work in homeless shelters; and

   vi. Essential government workers, as determined by the unit of government.

4. The intent of this Directive is to ensure that any person who is a Close Contact of a Person With Covid-19 avoids contact with others to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus and mitigate the impact of the virus on members of the public and on the delivery of critical healthcare services to those in need. All provisions of this Directive must be interpreted to effectuate this intent.

5. This Directive is issued based on best practices regarding the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically, and evidence that the age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of the County places it at risk for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. The virus can also have a serious impact on other people, regardless of age or other risk factors. Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in the general public, which is a pandemic according to the World Health Organization, there is a public health emergency throughout the County. Making the problem worse, some individuals who contract the virus causing COVID-19 have no symptoms or have mild symptoms, which means they
may not be aware they carry the virus and can inadvertently transmit it to others. Because even people without symptoms can transmit the infection, and because evidence shows the infection is easily spread, gatherings and other interpersonal interactions can result in preventable transmission of the virus.

6. This Directive is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference, the March 4, 2020 Proclamation of a State of Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom; the March 12, 2020 Proclamation by the Health Officer of Local Health Emergency, which the Napa County Board of Supervisors ratified on March 17, 2020 and continued on April 7, 2020; the March 13, 2020 Proclamation by the Chief Executive Officer/Director of Emergency Services of a Local Emergency, which the Board of Supervisors also ratified on March 17, 2020 and continued on April 7, 2020.

7. If an individual who is subject to this Directive fails to comply with it in willful disregard of public safety, the Health Officer may take additional action(s), which may include issuing an individualized quarantine order and seeking civil detention at a health facility or other location, as necessary to protect the public’s health.

8. This Directive shall become effective immediately upon issuance and remain in effect until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Health Officer.

IT IS SO DIRECTED:

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Karen Relucio, MD
Napa County Health Officer

Date: June 17, 2020