



**ST. JOSEPH COUNTY**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# St. Joseph County Department of Health

*"Promoting physical and mental health and facilitating the prevention of disease, injury and disability for all St. Joseph County residents"*

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Health Officer

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Deputy Health Officer

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 29, 2020**

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## **COVID-19 Cases Update**

St. Joseph County- As of today, the county's total number of confirmed cases is at 626.

Dr. Mark Fox participated with Governor Holcomb and Dr. Kris Box in the press briefing today in which they discussed the State's plan to ramp up testing and contact tracing.

Several area businesses have begun to require their customers to wear face coverings/masks when visiting their businesses. Wearing a face covering can help prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection, but it does NOT eliminate the need to maintain physical distance.

Face coverings/masks should:

- Fit snugly but comfortable against the side of the face
- Be secured with ties or ear loops
- Include multiple layers of fabric
- Allow for breathing without restriction
- Be able to be laundered (washed) and machine dried without damage or change to their shape

If you wish to make your own face covering/mask, you can visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) for videos and instructions on how to make a face covering/mask properly.

The South Bend Medical Foundation is seeking people who are fully recovered from COVID-19 and would like to donate plasma to help others who are currently sick with the virus. The use of "convalescent plasma" is permitted by the FDA as an investigational treatment for individuals with moderate to severe COVID infection. If you have had a laboratory-confirmed case of COVID-19 and have been free of symptoms for 28 days, you may be eligible to donate. If you are interested in participating, you can visit [www.sbmf.org](http://www.sbmf.org) for more information.

The St. Joseph County Department of Health urges the continuation of the following actions:

- **Practice extreme physical distancing.**
  - Maintain at least 6ft between individuals.
  - Wearing a mask does NOT eliminate the need for physical distancing.
- **Practice frequent and proper hand hygiene & cough etiquette.**
  - Wash hands often, for at least 20 seconds, with soap & water; coughing and sneezing into your sleeve.
- **Stay home if ill.**

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- **Adhere to the current Stay-at-Home order which has been extended to May 1, 2020.**

For more information on COVID-19, visit the Indiana State Department of Health at [www.in.gov/isdh](http://www.in.gov/isdh) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov). For general questions as it relates to COVID-19 infection, please call 2-1-1.

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