For Immediate Release: Friday, March 27, 2020 Contact: Mayor's Office, 781-286-8111



City of Revere Response to COVID-19: March 27, 2020 Update

Mayor Arrigo Urges Residents to Stay Home

Increased Support for Revere Seniors Continues

City Launches Online Mental Health and Wellness Support

March 27, 2020 – The City of Revere's Emergency Response Team continues to take proactive steps to slow community transmission of COVID-19 and prepare for further spread of the virus.

As of this evening, March 27, 2020, the Revere Board of Health has been notified by the Massachusetts Department of Health of 52 positive cases of COVID-19 in the City of Revere. Of these positive cases, seven have been identified among residents of a single multi-unit dwelling. Five of these individuals are hospitalized, and one has passed away, though the cause of death for this individual has not been confirmed.

"Our city is trending among the highest in the state of positive COVID-19 cases, and we need our residents to do their part and help us slow that trend," Mayor Arrigo said. "I'm asking the people of Revere to act for others and not just for yourself and your own family. This is not about individuals. It is about our community. The more you are away from your home, the more you endanger the rest of your community, including our first responders and health care workers."

Yesterday the Revere Board of Health advised all senior housing facilities in Revere regarding stricter implementation of existing policies. The City's outreach team has been working hard to provide all seniors with any support they may need, and is responding to every call made to Revere 311, whether it's a request for food delivery, other supplies, or a wellness check.

Today the City's Office of Substance Use Disorder Initiatives launched the first of its weekly online health and wellness support sessions. Open to anyone interested in staying connected to a larger network, the weekly sessions will be held on Friday at noon and focus on a different topic each week. The office has also continued its post overdose outreach program and its Support Line (781) 922-6069 remains open to anyone who needs assistance. The Mayor is being briefed daily by members of his Emergency Response Team to coordinate efforts across City departments. He and City officials continue to join daily briefings with state and federal officials to coordinate containment strategies regionally. All updates for Revere residents are being shared regularly at <u>Revere.org/coronavirus</u> and via social media.

City Services Updates

• Mayor Arrigo declared a State of Emergency in the City of Revere on March 19, 2020.

• There are no disruptions to basic City services provided by Revere Police, Fire, EMS, Department of Public Works and Revere 311.

• Residents should subscribe for email and text message notifications at <u>revere.org/coronavirus</u>.

• Revere 311 remains fully staffed and residents with questions or concerns are encouraged to reach the City by dialing 311 (or 781-286-8311) or emailing <u>Revere311@revere.org</u>.

• All City buildings are closed to the public until further notice, and services to residents remain available at Revere.org.

• All City parks and playgrounds are closed until further notice.

• Revere Public Schools' grab-and-go meal services are available to all students and families at all eight school sites. Breakfast and lunch will be provided to any child that needs it on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Children will receive meals for multiple days at each pick up.

• A mutual aid informational packet for residents is now available on Revere.org, providing a wide range of resources related to issues like access to food, health care, transportation, housing rights and more. The online document will be updated daily at 4 p.m.

• The City of Revere has published a <u>page</u> that outlines resources for impacted small businesses, employers, non-profits, and/or workers. The page will be updated by City staff on an ongoing basis, as information becomes available.

• The City of Revere's <u>volunteer database</u> is open for individuals seeking to lend a helping hand over the next several weeks.

Actions for All Revere Residents to Take

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has issued a "Stay At Home" Advisory for all residents, effective through April 7, and Governor Baker has prohibited gatherings of more than 10 people. Stay at Home means avoiding any unnecessary travel and activities for the next two weeks. Residents over the age of 70 or with underlying health conditions should limit interactions with other people as much as possible.

The <u>Centers for Disease Control</u> has advised the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus, and has provided a number of basic steps all citizens can take to protect themselves, including: washing your hands often, avoiding close contact with those who are sick, staying home when sick, covering coughs and sneezes, and cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces.

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