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Central District Health Department and Aksarben Stock Show Advise of Potential COVID-19 Exposure at Event

Central District Health Department (CDHD) in conjunction with Aksarben Stock Show advise that there was at least one known positive COVID-19 person at the Aksarben Stock Show event held September 24-27, 2020. There was a COVID-19 positive person in attendance at the Tradeshow held in the Expo Center on September 25th and present at Aksarben Purple Ribbon Reception and Auction held at the Livestock Arena Loft on September 26th.

“We are working with Event Staff in advising those in attendance to self-monitor for COVID symptoms in order to reduce the spread of the virus as much as possible,” states Teresa Anderson, CDHD Health Director. She adds, “We know that COVID tends to spread when many people are gathered together for prolonged periods of time indoors or even in outdoor settings, especially in situation where few people are masked.”

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported, ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea. When any of these symptoms is present, a person needs to self-isolate and seek medical care as needed. TestNebraska can provide free COVID-19 testing. Those seeking this test should register at: TestNebraska.com.

“COVID is contagious for 48 hours before the person experiences symptoms,” states Anderson. “This makes controlling the spread extremely difficult. People go about their usual activities not knowing that they are spreading COVID to others because they feel well until about two days later when they start to have symptoms. Even then, some people have little to no symptoms and may continue to unknowingly spread the virus to others.”

The number of positive cases is on the increase across the state. CDC advises that when a person wears a mask, that person is protecting others from the COVID virus. “This is not the time to let our guard down. Wear that mask whenever you are around others outside of your household, whether you are indoors or outdoors,” advises Anderson. “When you do this, you are protecting others. Nebraskans are people who care about each other and wearing masks now is just one more way to protect others.”