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March 29, 2020

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Sarpy/Cass Health Department Will Enact Additional Directed Health Measures**  
*Limitations on gatherings that do not allow for social distancing starting March 31st*

**PAPILLION** – The Sarpy/Cass Health Department continues to collaborate with local and state government partners to monitor and respond to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation. Our collective priority is to ensure appropriate public health recommendations and requirements are in place to ensure our residents remain as healthy as possible.

The Sarpy County Board of Commissioners and Cass County Board of Commissioners previously voted to approve and adopt the Department’s “Rules and Regulations for the Prevention of Spread of Communicable Disease, Illness or Poisoning”. This gave authority to the Health Director to enact additional Directed Health Measures (DHM) to further prevent transmission of communicable illness, like COVID-19. The DHM dated March 31, 2020, have been approved by the Chief Medical Officer and Director of Public Health for the State of Nebraska, Dr. Gary Anthone, MD.

The Directed Health Measures put in place by Governor Ricketts on March 19 and March 26 will continue to remain in effect. Details of all DHM covering Sarpy and Cass County can be found at <https://www.sarpycasshealthdepartment.org/novel-coronavirus#DHM>

The additional DHM will go into effect at 12:01 am on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, and will remain in effect no longer than necessary to ensure the individuals or groups affected by COVID-19 no longer pose a public health threat.

The additional DHM for Sarpy and Cass County includes requirements where a minimum social distance of six feet between attendees at gatherings must be maintained. This requirement includes but is not limited to beauty salons, nail salons, tattoo parlors, massage therapy offices, and other businesses in the beauty service industry.

Sarpy and Cass County government officials and public health leadership will be available for a media briefing on Monday, March 30, 2020, at 10 am. Additional information regarding this online briefing will be provided Monday morning.

The Health Department is continuously evaluating the potential pathways for COVID-19 transmission throughout our communities. Should implementation of additional public health measures be deemed necessary, the public will be notified immediately.

For more information about COVID-19 please visit [www.sarpycasshealthdepartment.org](http://www.sarpycasshealthdepartment.org) or <http://dhhs.ne.gov/coronavirus> or call 211.

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