



A RESOURCE FOR HEALTHY LIVING FROM THE
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Press Release Novel Coronavirus Update

On Friday evening, the Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services (DPHHS) and Gallatin City-County Health Department (GCCHD) confirmed a case of 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in an individual residing in Gallatin County.

Matt Kelley, Health Officer with Gallatin City-County Health Department, said health department staff had been in communication with the individual who tested positive on Friday evening. The individual, a male in his 40's, has mild symptoms and is in good condition at his home.

"The good news is that this person was conscientious about staying at home and limiting his exposure to the public," Kelley said. "We are in touch with the individual and his family. We are confident in their intention to stay at home and avoid contact with others."

Kelley said the individual had a history of recent international travel, and GCCHD officials believe it is unlikely he contracted the disease in Montana. The person had no contact with schools or senior care facilities.

Kelley noted that the health department has been preparing for the first detected case of the disease, working with partners including health care providers, first responders, educators, and elected officials to prepare to respond to confirmed cases.

"No one wants to hear news of a new disease in their community," Kelley said. "Residents and visitors in Gallatin County should know that the risk to the public related to this case remains low due to limited exposure."

As with all communicable disease cases, state and local public health officials in Montana work with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to identify and contact all those who have come in contact with the confirmed case.



