



MADISON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

To protect, promote and improve the health of our community.

216 BOGGS LANE • PO BOX 1208 • RICHMOND, KY 40476-1208
(859) 623-7312

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Kelley McBride: kelle yg.mcbride@ky.gov
(859) 544-6546

Madison County Health Department Transitions to New COVID-19 Case Count System

Richmond, KY- The Madison County Health Department is moving to a new Contact Tracing and Tracking system (CTT) for reporting COVID-19 case counts across the state as required by the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The CTT system will more accurately show information and data points regarding case counts, contacts, and recovery.

While the rise of positive COVID-19 cases in Madison County had caused some minor delays in contact tracing support to people affected by the virus, the sudden increase of cases in July and August resulted in a backlog of data entry into the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS), the disease reporting system that is currently used by public health officials. Although the health department has hired more personnel dedicated to contact tracing, there had not been enough qualified and authorized personnel to perform data entry for past cases. Each entry takes approximately 30-45 minutes to complete by a person with appropriate access credentials and training.

The transition to the new system may take over a month to complete. During the transition the case count numbers may appear to increase for past periods. This does not invalidate the case count that was given at the time. This means that the new system will show the same data to the county and to the state at roughly the same time. Madison County Health Department's daily and weekly reports will come from the new system.

Ultimately the CTT system will lead to a dashboard of information shared across the state which can provide some data that is currently not directly available from NEDSS.

"We are moving from an older system that was not created to handle the data entry required for a pandemic to a new system of reporting that more efficiently and accurately depicts what is occurring much closer to real time," said Madison County Health Department Director Nancy Crewe.

"This new system will allow us to provide more information to the public while continuing to provide appropriate support to those people who require support," said Crewe.

Recommended links for more information regarding the Madison County Health Department and for information about COVID-19: www.madisoncountyhealthdept.org, www.kycovid19.ky.gov, www.cdc.gov.

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