

# COUNTY OF GILLESPIE



MARK STROEHER  
County Judge

101 W. Main, Unit #9  
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624  
Phone: 830-997-7502  
Fax: 830-992-2608

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Gillespie County reports additional cases of COVID-19

Gillespie County is reporting the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> cases of COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus, in county residents. These cases are associated with community spread of the virus at the Windcrest Nursing & Rehab facility. All of the affected residents are isolated in the facility. There are no further known cases at Windcrest at this time. On May 11th, Governor Abbott ordered the testing of all nursing home facilities in the state. On June 7<sup>th</sup>, Windcrest Nursing and Rehab was tested. Two staff members and 3 residents tested positive for the coronavirus. The 6<sup>th</sup> case in Gillespie County, a staff member, was confirmed and reported on June 12, 2020. Cases 7, 8 and 9 were confirmed late on June 12<sup>th</sup>. These cases are residents at Windcrest. The 5<sup>th</sup> positive test is a staff worker who is not a resident of Gillespie County.

Given the increases in community spread throughout the United States, all individuals are at some risk of exposure to COVID-19. Everyone should monitor themselves for symptoms of COVID-19, practice social distancing, and stay home if they become sick, except to seek necessary medical care. The Texas Department of State Health Services is supporting Gillespie County in identifying any close contacts of the patients, so they can be isolated, monitored for symptoms, and quickly tested, if needed.

County Judge Mark Stroehler requests that all county residents continue to practice social

distancing and good personal hygiene guidelines published by the Department of State Health Services. “Gillespie County, like the rest of Texas, is gradually re-opening for business. As more people visit and enjoy our community, we need to take care of ourselves and our visitors by observing published standards and guidelines.”

There are things everyone can do to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Minimizing exposure is especially important for people who are 65 or older or who have an underlying health condition like heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, high blood pressure or cancer. People in those groups have a higher risk of developing severe disease if they do get COVID-19, and the safest thing for them during an outbreak will be to stay home as much as possible and minimize close contact with other people. To get ready, they should talk to their doctor about getting additional prescription medications and have enough household items and groceries on hand to stay home as needed.

The public can find up-to-date coronavirus information at [dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus](https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus). If you have questions about COVID-19, call 2-1-1 option 6.