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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Henry County Health Department Reports COVID-19 Outbreak**

**Napoleon, OH**– Henry County Health Department is investigating an outbreak of COVID-19 in Northcrest Rehab and Nursing Center. At this time, 57 confirmed cases, 7 hospitalizations, and 1 death is associated with the outbreak.

“The investigation is currently ongoing and our contact tracing staff are monitoring confirmed cases and close contacts that have been identified,” stated Julie Lauf, Director of Nursing. “Our public health nurses are extremely vital in the process of limiting the spread of COVID-19 in our community through this contact tracing. We are working closely with Northcrest staff to investigate the outbreak and stop further disease spread.”

Residential healthcare facilities, like nursing homes, are at a higher risk of outbreaks due to the close contact of residents and staff members. “It’s important to stop the spread of disease in any long-term care or assisted living facility as many of the residents in these facilities are at higher risk for serious complications from COVID-19,” stated Mark Adams, Health Commissioner.

Every community member can greatly limit the spread of COVID-19 by following these actions:

- Continue to wear facial coverings that cover nose, mouth, and chin in public at all times when at an indoor location that is not a residence and outdoors if you are unable to maintain six-foot social distance from people who are not household members.
- Maintain social distancing of at least six feet. Be respectful of other people and the space around them – indoors or out.
- Decrease in-person interactions with others outside of your household and limit attending gatherings of any size.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm water – and encourage those around you to do the same.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces or objects daily.
- Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and do not spit.
- Stay home if you feel ill. If you are concerned it may be COVID call your healthcare provider.

Henry County Health Department will continue to release information regarding COVID-19 at [www.henrycohd.org](http://www.henrycohd.org) and department social media accounts. More information about COVID-19 can be found at [www.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov).

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