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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hurley, WI- Iron County Public Health is reporting a total of 10 positive COVID-19 cases. Recent increases in positive cases of COVID-19 in Iron County clearly demonstrate the presence of community spread. Community members can assume that anywhere they go in public, especially establishments or events, where physical distancing of 6 feet can't be maintained and other safety precautions such as wearing a face covering are not followed, increases their risk of becoming infected. Contact tracing is completed on all positive cases. If a person who tested positive for COVID-19 was out in public during their potential time of communicability and if the time spent there could have resulted in a **SIGNIFICANT** exposure for others (CDC says a person is within 6 feet distance for at least 15 minutes of close contact). **This is not intended to lay blame on any local businesses, anyone who tests positive** (people may not have symptoms during their period of communicability and may not know they are sick), or other locations identified. It is meant to allow the public to better know their potential risk of being previously exposed to someone who has tested positive. As people move about more, tracing all contacts becomes increasingly more difficult. In situations in which someone who has tested positive and has been out in public, it may be up to the community to identify if they should be tested based on if they have been to the same places as the person who tested positive on the same dates.

It is important for everyone to continue to be diligent as people without symptoms can spread the virus and may be visiting the same places as you are. Public Health can confirm that there were positive patrons at the following establishments:

- Alaska House, Hurley, WI- July 2nd 4pm- 8pm

If you have been at these establishments, monitor your symptoms. If you develop symptoms isolate yourself and call your physician.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include: • Fever and chills • Cough • Shortness of breath • Loss of taste or smell • Sore throat • Fatigue and body/muscle aches • Diarrhea, vomiting and nausea

The public should continue to follow these preventive steps to protect our families, neighbors, and communities from the spread of this virus, including:

- Avoiding social gatherings of any size, with people of all ages who do not live together (including playdates and sleepovers, parties, large family dinners, visitors and non-essential workers in your house);
- Practicing physical distancing when out in the community by staying 6 feet away from others;
- **Wear cloth face coverings;**
- Taking special precautions to protect high-risk individuals;
- Frequent and thorough hand washing with soap and water;

- Covering coughs and sneezes (into the sleeve, elbow, or tissue, and not hands);
- Regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces;
- Not shaking hands;
- Avoiding touching your face;
- Staying at home as much as possible, avoid travel outside of your community.

This is a rapidly evolving situation. We are in this together. We can choose to protect ourselves and each other, and thereby protect our community and economy, by changing our behavior in accordance with the actions listed above.

Check the Iron County web page and Facebook for updates and alerts.

www.ironcountypublichealth.org