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COVID-19 UPDATE: The Richland County Health Department is announcing one additional active case of COVID-19 in a Richland County resident, the release of one case from isolation, and one additional COVID-related death. This brings the total case count to 47. At this time, 40 of the total cases are recovered, 5 are active, with two deaths.

A female in her 80's has passed away. The Department will not be releasing any additional details about the death.

"The Richland County Health Department extends our heartfelt sympathy to the family in their time of loss," said Brittney Petersen, Richland County Health Department Administrator. "We are deeply saddened at the loss of another Richland County resident due to COVID-19. The family and friends of the individual are in our thoughts."

Active case updates are as follows:

Case 47: A male in his 30's who is not hospitalized and is isolating at home. The investigation is ongoing and contact tracing has begun. The individual was named as a contact to a positive case and became symptomatic during quarantine.

The Health Department continues to monitor more than 30 close contacts daily. The Health Department's investigations show that residents could be doing more to follow COVID-19 preventative recommendations, particularly in regard to not going out when sick, staying home after being tested, and avoiding large gatherings.

It is imperative that Richland County residents follow instructions from the Health Department and healthcare providers. The following are important reminders:

- If you are not feeling well, particularly including symptoms of a dry cough, fever, shortness of breath, headache, and other cold-like symptoms, stay home until you feel better. This means that you do not go to work, do not attend regular activities, and cancel or postpone appointments.
- If you have been tested for COVID-19 for any reason, including preoperative testing, you must stay home until test results are received. This means that you do not go to work, do not attend regular activities, and cancel or postpone appointments.
- All residents should be practicing social distancing, including limiting the number of close contacts. This means avoiding large gatherings where social distancing is difficult. Wear a mask as required and when social distancing is difficult.

Together we can slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Please do your part so Richland County can recover socially and economically from this pandemic.