



Adams County COVID-19 Mitigation Plan
October 13, 2020





October 16, 2020

Eva Henry, Commissioner
Charles Tedesco, Commissioner
Emma Pinter, Commissioner
Steve O'Dorisio, Commissioner
Mary Hodge, Commissioner
Adams County Board of Commissioners
via email

Raymond Gonzales, County Manager
Adams County
via email

John Douglas, Director
Tri-County Health Department
via email

RE: Adams County Mitigation Plan

Dear Commissioners, County Manager Gonzales, and Director Douglas:

Thank you for submitting a mitigation plan to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) with regards to Adams County's current status under **Public Health Order 20-35 Safer at Home Dial**, as amended. Current metrics for disease spread in Adams County include the following:

- Two-week cumulative incidence rate: 339.84/100,000 people
- Percent positivity: 7.9%
- 2-week COVID-19 case count (new cases): 1,760

While we appreciate the county's swift actions and approach in implementing targeted strategies, as cases continue to increase we feel it's prudent for Adams County to implement through a local public health order the following additional restrictions given the burden and sources of disease in the county:

- Restrict spectators at organized sporting events, including high school and adult recreational and league sports.
- Reduce participant size for organized recreational and league youth sports.
- Reduce indoor and outdoor private gathering sizes.

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- Implement an alcohol service curfew or “last call” for 10pm.

Additionally, we would like to see the county emphasize targeted community messaging around the private gathering size limits, as well as enforcement measures the county will take to better ensure compliance.

We will follow-up with you in ten days to assess the county’s metrics and mitigation progress. If the county’s incidence rate has not significantly decreased, we will move the county to a more restrictive level at that time.

We appreciate your thoughtful approach to the challenges in Adams County. Suppressing the spread of this persistent virus takes the cooperation of everyone consistently practicing good disease prevention strategies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill Hunsaker Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Hunsaker Ryan, MPH
Executive Director

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER
LIMITING GATHERINGS AND ALCOHOL SALES IN ADAMS COUNTY

Pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 25-1-506, 508, 509, and 516, the Tri-County Health Department (“TCHD”) hereby issues this Public Health Order in Adams County to control and slow the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus (“coronavirus”) and to mitigate the effects of the disease resulting therefrom (the coronavirus and the disease resulting therefrom shall be referred to herein as “COVID-19”). The goal of this Order shall be to control and reduce the spread of COVID-19, to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, to maintain consistent healthcare capacity in Adams County and to lower the level of COVID-19 to Safer at Home Level 2 metrics.

FINDINGS

Whereas, TCHD has public health jurisdiction over Adams County. In furtherance of its jurisdiction, TCHD has the power and duty to investigate and control the causes of epidemic or communicable diseases and conditions affecting the public health within its jurisdiction, as well as the power and duty to close schools and public places and to prohibit gatherings of people when necessary to protect public health, and to establish, maintain, and enforce isolation and quarantine, and in pursuance thereof, to exercise physical control over property and over persons within TCHD’s jurisdiction as it may find necessary for the protection of public health.

Whereas, COVID-19 is a respiratory illness transmitted like other respiratory illness through person-to-person contact, or by contact with surfaces contaminated with the virus, or through respiratory droplets that people expel when they breathe, cough, or sneeze. Persons can be infected with COVID-19 and be asymptomatic yet still contagious. Persons can be contagious 48 hours before developing symptoms. Many people with COVID-19 have mild symptoms and do not recognize that they are infected and contagious and that they can unintentionally infect others. Persons infected with COVID-19 may become symptomatic anywhere from two to fourteen days after exposure. Symptoms include fever, cough and/or shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. Individuals with serious chronic health conditions and older adults are most at risk for becoming very ill with this disease.

Whereas, due to the presence of COVID-19 in Colorado, states of emergency were declared by the State of Colorado and those states of emergency continue. In an effort to control and reduce the spread of COVID-19, various executive orders have been issued by the Governor of Colorado, and various public health orders have been issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (“CDPHE”) and TCHD.

Whereas, there is substantial evidence of the continued spread of COVID-19 throughout Adams County. As of October 16, 2020, there are 11,340 known positive cases in Adams County with a two-week incidence rate of 335/100,000 population, and a test positivity rate of 7.9%.

Whereas, scientific evidence shows that limiting interactions among people slows virus transmission and, as social distancing restrictions are lifted, that minimizing the gatherings of people assists in maintaining reduced virus transmission by reducing the spread of respiratory droplets.

Whereas the CDPHE issued [Second Amended Public Health Order 20-35](#) Safer at Home Dial on October 8, 2020. Per the metrics in the Dial, Adams County exceeded the Level 2 incidence threshold on September 28, 2020. This order is being issued in order to prevent movement in the Dial to Level 2 and the further restrictions that this change would require in Adams County.

ORDER

Pursuant to the statutory authority granted the Executive Director, and Public Health Director, of TCHD, the following is ordered:

1. Spectators are prohibited at Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) sanctioned sporting events.
2. Spectators are prohibited from adult recreational and league sports.
3. Organized recreational and league youth sports are limited to 25 people per field, including spectators. Coaches and referees are excluded from the 25 person capacity limit.
4. Personal indoor gatherings are limited to no more than 5 individuals. Outdoor personal gatherings are limited to no more than 10 individuals. Nothing in this order prohibits the gathering of members living in the same household.
5. Cease all alcohol beverage sales at 10:00 P.M.

A **Personal Gathering** is any gathering that does not fall under the category of **Regulated Gathering**. Personal Gatherings include, but are not limited to, all public or private gatherings as defined in CDPHE's Amended Public Health Order 20-35 whether on private or public property. Gatherings on residential property are personal social gatherings for purposes of this order, unless an exclusion applies.

Regulated Gathering: a gathering of customers or participants in any activity permitted pursuant to Appendix B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K of CDPHE Order 20-35 that is not a public or private gathering pursuant to CDPHE Order 20-35. By way of example, regulated gatherings include classes at commercial gyms and studios, organized concerts, permitted events and other professionally organized events.

A **Personal Gathering** does not include:

1. Employees and volunteers of any business, government, nonprofit, or not-for-profit entity while performing work for such entity;
2. any school sanctioned educational activity
3. any life rites, such as weddings, graduations, funerals, other religious rites, and worship services, as authorized by and conducted in strict compliance with CDPHE Public Health Order 20-35;
4. organized events that meet the criteria in Appendix I of CDPHE Order 20-35 for Indoor and Outdoor Events;
5. participation in any activity required by law.

Individuals participating in gatherings must follow all public health laws and orders concerning Face Coverings and must comply with Social Distancing Requirements whenever possible.

Other Public Health Orders Related to COVID-19

This Order is intended to be and shall be read and construed in concert with and as a supplement and addition to all federal, state and local laws and orders related to COVID-19.

To the extent any federal, state, or local municipal orders or laws are more restrictive than what is set forth herein, such orders or laws control.

Local municipal governments within TCHD's jurisdiction retain the authority to issue and enforce equally or more restrictive orders than are set forth herein.

ADVISEMENT AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Along with CDPHE, TCHD is tasked with protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Adams, Arapahoe, and Douglas Counties as it relates to epidemic and communicable diseases, including COVID-19. This Order is necessary to control transmission of that disease to persons and to maintain consistent healthcare capacity in TCHD's jurisdiction. Immediate issuance of this Order is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, and welfare.

If you have questions regarding this Order, please contact TCHD at 303-220-9200 or view the COVID-19 information on TCHD's website at www.tchd.org.

Members of the public can report suspected violations of this public health order by contacting TCHD at 303-220-9200. Please do not call 911 to report violations of this public health order.

TCHD will attempt to seek voluntary compliance through education, technical assistance and warning notices. However, this Order may be enforced by any appropriate legal means. It is unlawful for any person to willfully violate, disobey, or disregard this Order. Any person who does so may be subject to the penalties provided in C.R.S. §§25-1-516 and 18-1.3-501. In addition, if you do not comply with this Order, TCHD may seek a court order in Colorado state district court to enforce this Order and/or to restrain or enjoin any violation of this Order.

Any business open to the public that violates this Order may be subject to the suspension or revocation of its license by the appropriate licensing authority as provided by law.

Any person aggrieved and affected by this Order is entitled to Colorado state district court judicial review of this Order pursuant to and in accordance with C.R.S. §25-1-515. However, the aggrieved and affected person must continue to comply with the terms of this Order while his, her, or its request for judicial review is pending.

If any part or provision of this Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, the remainder of this Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the parts and provisions of this Order are severable.

This Public Health Order shall be in effect at 9:00 P.M. on October 16, 2020 and shall expire on 11:59 P.M. Sunday, November 1, 2020 unless earlier amended, extended, rescinded, or superseded in writing by the Executive Director of TCHD.

DONE AND SIGNED, as the official Order of the Medical Director and Public Health Officer (“Executive Director”) of the Tri-County Health Department on October 16, 2020.

TRI-COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John M. Douglas, Jr., M.D." with a stylized flourish at the end.

By: John M. Douglas, Jr., M.D.
Executive Director

Raymond H. Gonzales
COUNTY MANAGER



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October 13, 2020

Executive Director Jill Hunsaker Ryan
Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
4300 Cherry Creek South Drive, Denver, CO 80246

RE: Adams County "Pledge to Protect" Mitigation Plan

Dear Director Hunsaker Ryan,

Attached you will find the Adams County "Pledge To Protect" Mitigation Plan.

In the last few weeks, Adams County has seen a troubling spike in confirmed COVID-19 cases. This rise in caseloads has threatened to move Adams County into Safer at Home- Level 3. Understanding the economic and social impact this would cause, the county has worked with businesses, schools, and local health partners to develop mitigation strategies responsive to the community.

Adams County has used a strategic approach to identify targeted mitigation measures tailored to address factors influencing transmission within Adams County communities as indicated by disease surveillance data and other monitoring systems.

In addition, we recognized the need for a cross-jurisdictional, coordinated suppression plan to truly address the concerning data trends. That being the case, this mitigation plan was shared with all of the city managers and/or town administrators within Adams County to receive input and recommendations. In addition, we met with our hospital administrators within the county to seek feedback and discuss current trends and hospital capacity.

The targeted approaches outlined in this plan include but are not limited to:

- Continued Contact Tracing and Case Investigation
- Diagnostic Testing Efforts
- Resident-Oriented Interventions
- Partnering with Local School Districts to Keep In-Person Learning Safe
- Business-Oriented Interventions
- Community Scale Strategies

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Eva J. Henry
DISTRICT 1

Charles "Chaz" Tedesco
DISTRICT 2

Emma Pinter
DISTRICT 3

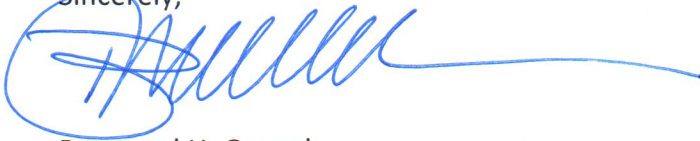
Steve O'Dorisio
DISTRICT 4

Mary Hodge
DISTRICT 5

Please see the mitigation plan document for further details on our targeted approach to mitigate and suppress the rising cases within the county in both the near term and long term.

The spike of positive cases we are seeing in Adams County is deeply concerning, but we feel that the attached plan will aid us in reducing transmission and help reverse current case trends within the county. We are prepared and ready to work with Tri-County Health Department, municipal partners, schools, hospitals, businesses, and the state to address the concerning increase in COVID-19 cases within the county.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Raymond H. Gonzales', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Raymond H. Gonzales
County Manager



Introduction

Numerous studies of epidemiological data have found that SARS-CoV-2 is primarily transmitted through respiratory aerosols, a small subset of infected individuals (~20%) are likely responsible for a majority of transmissions, infectious individuals may also be asymptomatic, and that infectious viral loads are generated in the body 2-3 days before onset of symptom through day 10 of active infection. The early viral load of COVID-19 compared to that of both SARS and MERS, which saw viral load peaks in the second week of infection, suggests that community spread is occurring from prolonged contact with infected yet primarily pre- and early-symptomatic individuals (Cevik M, Marcus JL, Buckee C, Smith TC, 2020). Additionally, socio-economic factors have been linked to a higher risk of infection from household and occupational exposure to SARS-CoV-2, which may be exacerbated by underlying health conditions (Rose TC, Mason K, Pennington A, 2020). This emerging evidence on transmission dynamics, community dispersion, and granular analysis of county-level data has informed the selection of short-term mitigation strategies tailored to address the particular factors influencing SARS-CoV-2 transmission and increasing COVID incidence rates within Adams County.

In the last few weeks, Adams County has seen a spike in confirmed COVID-19 cases. This rise in caseloads has threatened to move Adams County into Safer at Home: Level 3. Understanding the economic and social impact this would cause, the County has worked with municipal, business, and social partners to develop mitigation strategies responsive to our community. While this mitigation plan includes County-wide mitigation efforts, several specific mitigation measures are targeted directly in areas seeing higher than average case numbers, often known as “hotspots”.

Ongoing Local Containment Measures

Contact Tracing and Case Investigation

- The TCHD has a strong infectious disease surveillance system in place that leverages local partnerships with hospitals and clinics. With 239 case investigators and more than 200 contact tracers, 80% of contact cases are initiated within 24-hours of report receipt.
- When TCHD contact tracers are able to contact positive cases, public health guidance is provided to them and all of their household or intimate contacts. TCHD contact tracers then reach out to the next highest risk stratification of work contacts then non-household contacts.
- Case investigation data is analyzed and tracked by the Disease Surveillance Epidemiological Data Team. Data points collected include case location by zip code, weekly total cases and interviews, time to initiate, number and type of social interactions before and after infectious period for primary and secondary cases, and school delineated data. Ongoing analysis continually reveals the majority of positive cases are located within city centers and along major transportation corridors. Temporal heat maps of COVID-19 cases within Adams County, as shown below, provide near real-time incidence rate trends that will inform education and outreach efforts, multi-jurisdictional coordination and additional testing site locations. As shown in the four-week heat maps below, it appears that positive and probable cases located in neighborhoods surrounding Water World have increased week over week since that testing location was established.



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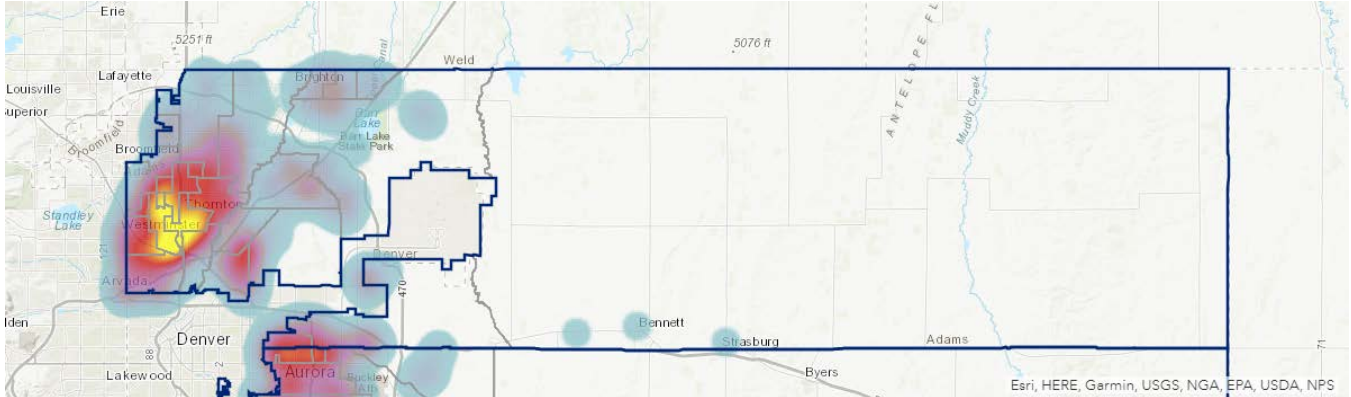


Figure 1: 10/1-10/7 *653 Positive Cases

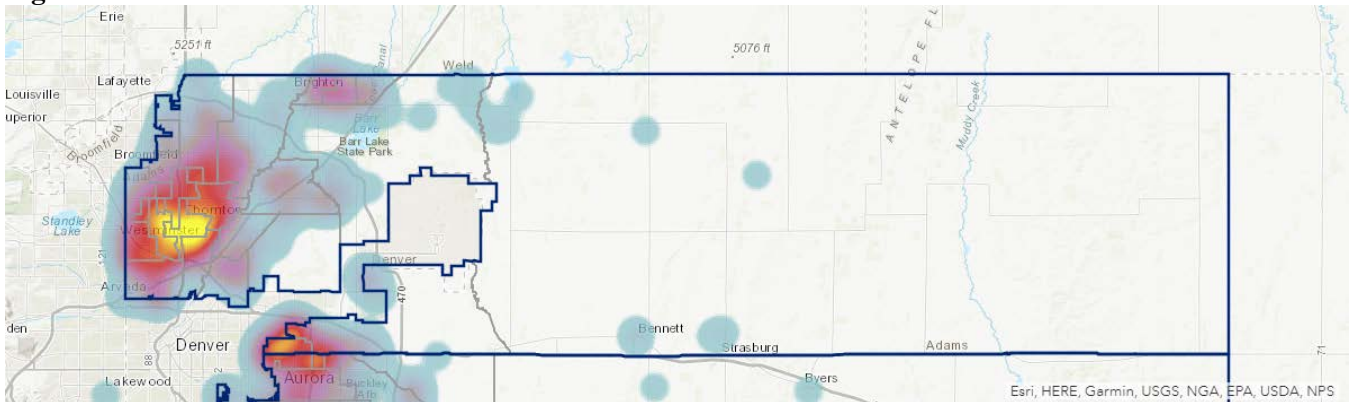


Figure 2: 9/24-9/30 748 Positive Cases

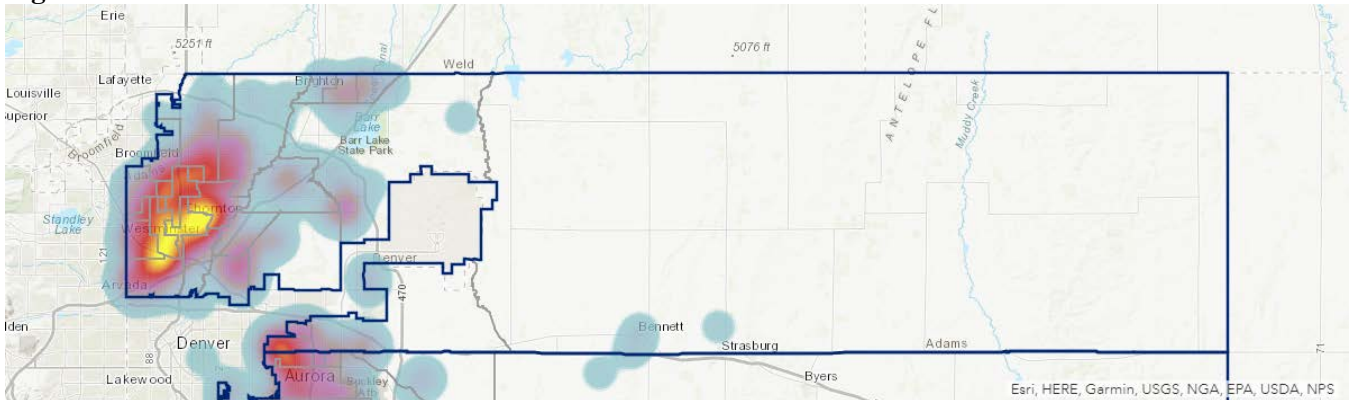


Figure 3: 9/17-9/23 549 Positive Cases

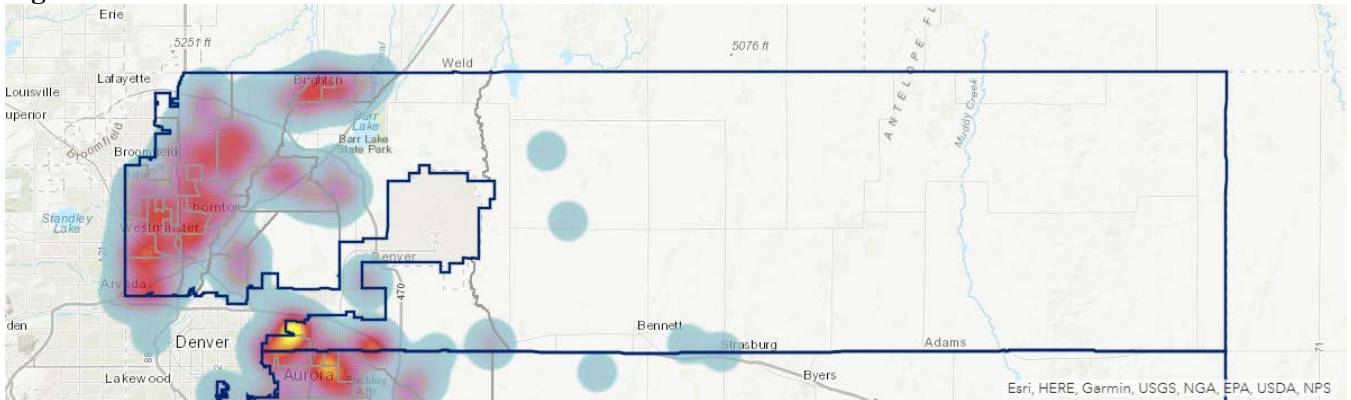


Figure 4: 9/10-9/16 359 Positive Cases



Diagnostic Testing Efforts

- **Rapid Testing:** Adams County partnered to establish a new rapid testing site in the City of Aurora and continues to operate rapid testing sites in Commerce City, Brighton, Northglenn and Westminster with a capacity to provide 200 tests/site per day. Adams County and its partners have established two free testing sites, mobile testing sites, and continues to support numerous clinic and hospital testing locations across the county. These rapid testing sites provide free tests to our homeless residents, as well. Residents can access testing site location, operation, and hours information at www.adamscountyCOVID.gov.
- **PCR Testing:** Adams County, in partnership with CDPHE, established a large-scale testing center at the Water World facility located in Federal Heights. Tests are provided to any individual, regardless of county residency with or without symptoms or known exposure. ***This testing center has ramped up to a capacity of 1,500 per day and is averaging 1,300 tests each day.*** To date 13,814 tests have been administered and this location is primed to become the only major testing center within the metro area with the recent decommissioning of the Aurora Sports Complex and Denver Pepsi Center sites.
- Adams County has continually focused on developing and supporting greater testing availability for our residents through free and mobile testing and is working with testing providers to establish additional testing sites. The number of COVID-19 tests administered within Adams County has substantially increased since the previous mitigation plan was implemented. Currently, more than 1,100 tests/day are provided to Adams County residents with more than **119,000** tests administered since March 1, 2020.

Monitoring Systems

- Adams County is utilizing Zencity® information systems to identify community impressions on COVID-19 messaging, social behaviors surrounding public health measures, community gathering events, and other topics that provide real-time feedback on the effectiveness of cross-jurisdictional communications efforts, PSAs and, specifically, Adams County's ***Pledge to Protect*** campaign.
- Adams County in partnership with TCHD tracks information on a daily basis to monitor the impacts of Public Health Orders, including key public health indicators, hospital data, and TCHD data. This information is made publicly available through the county's COVID-19 data dashboard.
- TCHD has a strong disease surveillance system in place and continues to partner with area hospital and clinic systems to facilitate rapid case identification and response. TCHD reviews hospital information and other data with county commissioners during weekly meetings to help inform alternate restrictions and guide future policy recommendations on the re-opening of the County.
- In response to the increasing 2-week incidence rate, Adams County held numerous emergency meetings with stakeholders to convey current epidemiological data, discuss potential ramifications, elicit collaborative strategies for mitigating COVID transmission, and ensure cross-jurisdictional agreement on Mitigation Planning efforts.
- The County Manager receives daily briefings from TCHD, hosts weekly COVID-19 response calls with other county managers across the state, and hosts a bi-weekly Adams County Council of Governments meeting with municipal managers, mayors and elected officials focused on



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COVID-19 monitoring and response throughout Adams County.

- TCHD hosts weekly COVID-19 updates with Adams County elected officials.
- Unique to the Tri-County area is the monitoring and tracking of mask use by the general public and employees entering and leaving businesses. This mask survey data provides a snapshot of residents' behaviors and continues to provide the County's COVID response team with valuable insights regarding potential communication and enforcement gaps affecting individual behaviors (see Figure 5). TCHD also capitalizes on these observations to engage with businesses and provide public health information.

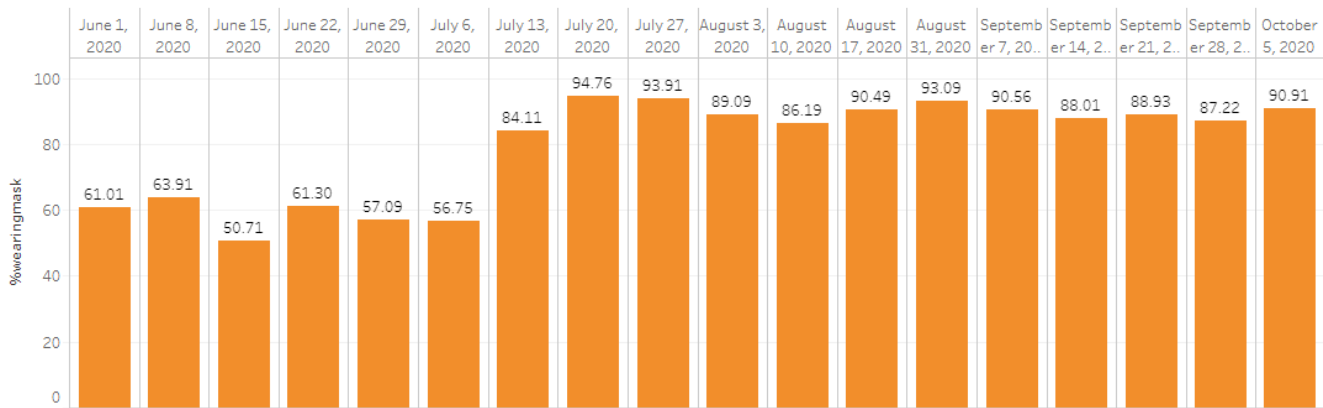


Figure 5: Percentage of People Observed Wearing a Mask at Adams County Locations

PHO 20-35 Safer at Home Dial

COVID-19 Dial Metrics

	PROTECT OUR NEIGHBORS: CAREFUL	SAFER AT HOME			STAY AT HOME: SEVERE
		SAFER LEVEL 1: CAUTIOUS	SAFER LEVEL 2: CONCERN	SAFER LEVEL 3: HIGH RISK	
NEW CASES <i>(excluding outbreak-associated cases in residential facilities)</i>	Must achieve all 8 Protect Our Neighbors metrics and complete the certification process	0-75 / 100,000 2-week incidence	> 75-175 / 100,000 2-week incidence	> 175-350 / 100,000 2-week incidence	> 350 / 100,000 2-week incidence
PERCENT POSITIVITY		No greater than 5%	No greater than 10%	No greater than 15%	No limit
STABLE OR DECLINING HOSPITALIZATIONS?		Increasing, stable, or declining?	Increasing, stable, or declining?	Increasing, stable, or declining?	Increasing, stable, or declining?



Adams County Performance Indicators

Currently the county is in the **Safer At Home Level 2 (Concern)** of the new COVID-19 Dial (“Dial”) with the threat of downgrading to the more restrictive Safer At Home Level 3 (High Risk) due to increasing number of COVID cases. Following are the key metrics for Adams County as of October 10:

- **2-week incidence rate = 305.1/100,000**
- Percent Positivity rate = 7.4%
- Hospitalizations: 12 Days of Declining or Stable Hospitalizations

Mitigation Strategies Under the Dial

The County has used a strategic approach to identify targeted mitigation measures tailored to address factors influencing transmission within Adams County communities as indicated by disease surveillance data and other monitoring systems.

Resident-Oriented Interventions

Social interaction data captured during contact tracing interviews of positive cases in Adams County show the prevalence of individual behavior both before and after symptom onset, which may indicate gaps in community-wide knowledge, misperception of the factors influencing SARS-CoV-2 transmission, or a potential disconnect with personal responsibility. To better characterize setting types potentially contributing to cluster events, individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 were asked to identify types of social interactions they participated in both 10-days prior to symptom onset (see Figure 7) and after experiencing symptoms (see Figure 8). Based on the data captured, it appears public and private gatherings, restaurants/cafes and houses of worship are possible sites of exposure within in the county. Given that risk factors such as crowding, minimal social distancing and not wearing face masks are likely present with group gatherings – both private and business - the county in partnership with its municipalities is targeting mitigation strategies that specifically address these risks.

Bridging the Lost Wage Gap for Low-Wage and Under-Resourced Residents:

1. Utilizing CARE Act funds, Adams County is developing a program that incentivizes residents to complete COVID testing by removing barriers such as the lack of paid leave, lack of health insurance, and under-employment. Income qualifying residents can participate in the wage compensation program to cover lost wages caused by isolating at home until test result receipt and subsequent quarantine period during which the resident follows stay at home guidelines.

Coordinated, cross-jurisdictional strategies aimed at preventing transmission events via private and public gatherings, particularly at non-business locations (residences, parks, neighborhoods, etc.):

1. Communication efforts to effectively educate the public on transmission risk factors, the importance of following public health measures, and the new COVID Dial System via website, streaming services, social media platforms, and stakeholder networks (see Attachment 1, External Communication Plan). The legal requirement to follow public health orders will be covered.
 - ✓ Adams County has engaged its Municipal Partners to ensure consistent and accurate information is developed and tailored to engage specific demographics.



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- ✓ Through its Response and Recovery Teams, Adams County has engaged Partnerships with key stakeholders to ensure communications information is delivered to minority and LatinX/Hispanic communities that may not have been previously engaged.
 - ✓ Signs, placards, and visual media demonstrating proper social distancing and mask use will be posted at playgrounds and park gathering areas, as well as near specific businesses such as liquor stores located in COVID hotspot areas.
 - ✓ Guidance documents on private gatherings and Halloween are posted on the County COVID-19 website and have been provided to City Managers by TCHD.
 - ✓ County Commissioners are hosting a Parent Town Hall on October 20, 2020 during which messaging on the CDPHE Dial, public health measures, and the County Mitigation Plan will be shared.
2. Adams County will launch a series of video public service announcements (PSA) to engage and educate the broader community about the need to follow masking and social distancing protocols, not just for personal safety, but also to support overall community and economic health. Individual PSA's will feature local elected leaders directly appealing to community members to slow the spread of COVID by masking in public and at private gatherings, maintaining 6-ft distance, and following public health guidelines. Paid advertisement avenues with a broad reach are also being sought. The PSA videos will:
- ✓ Educate the public on the new COVID-19 Dial and how it works.
 - ✓ Reiterate the legal requirement to follow public health orders on wearing masks and maintaining 6-ft of distance between others in public.
 - ✓ Feature Dr. French with Centura Health explaining the importance of wearing masks and maintaining social distance at small gatherings and holiday events.
 - ✓ Working with School Superintendents, City Mayors, and business leaders to issue direct video messages to constituents urging the continued adherence to public health measures so that schools and businesses remain open and do not have to reduce capacity limits. These will be similar to Superintendent Chris Gdowski's October 11 PSA.
 - ✓ Announce Adams County's ***Pledge to Protect*** campaign. ***Pledge to Protect*** decals, magnets, and stickers. Pledge to Protect PSA videos featuring seniors, families, and community members urging their neighbors to strengthen their resolve to stop the spread.
 - ✓ Feature messages from businesses that take the ***Pledge to Protect*** on the importance of masking and social distance requirements.
3. Coordinated weekly meetings with Public Information Officers representing all jurisdictions are held to ensure consistent messaging reflective of current epidemiological and disease surveillance data.
4. A multi-jurisdictional, temporary ban on large public gatherings such as block parties.
- ✓ The Adams County Council of Governments identified temporarily halting the issuance of permits for large public outdoor gatherings or otherwise banning large public and private gatherings within their respective jurisdictions as an effective, short-term mitigation strategy.
5. Complaint response and outreach as deemed appropriate by each jurisdiction.
- ✓ The Adams County Sheriff's Office will actively participate in the mitigation strategies within unincorporated Adams County. The Sheriff's Office will respond to reports referred



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by TCHD, County staff, as well as resident reports of private gatherings and house parties exceeding prescribed capacity limits or otherwise violating Public Health Orders.

- ✓ Adams County Park Ranger and Parks staff will monitor county parks and open spaces during the normal course of their work for gatherings that exceed Level 2 limits and/or in which social distance requirements are not maintained. Staff has been provided the TCHD Small Gatherings Guidance Document to distribute to residents, as necessary.
 - ✓ TCHD will continue with complaint response, investigation, business education, and enforcement of public health mandates, as necessary.
 - ✓ TCHD is developing a ticketing process to issue tickets and monetary fines to establishments not adhering to required public health orders.
6. Identifying opportunities to expand mask observations at parks, playgrounds, open spaces through existing jurisdictional functions in an effort to identify opportunities for public outreach regarding preventative measures when interacting in small and large groups.
 7. Adams County is working with TCHD and CDPHE to evaluate a requirement that all participants and spectators wear masks when playing in or attending club sports, recreational sports, and high school sports regardless of the ability to maintain social distance.
 8. Elections and Polling Station Precautions
 - ✓ Adams County will follow appropriate protocols and implement additional safety measures following CDC's Guidance on Election Polling Locations.
 - ✓ Staff has established plastic barriers where possible, secured additional personal protective equipment for elections staff, and will enforce masking and social distancing protocols during the voting process.

Zencity® Technology Deployment for Real-Time Community Impression and Behavior Data

1. Zencity, an AI-driven resident sentiment tool, will allow Adams County to assess the reach and effectiveness of each targeted COVID-19 communications strategy allowing adjustments to be made in real-time. Adams County can track and analyze everything from resident opinion on mask mandates, to understanding of community-spread, to how school closures affect working families (see Figure 6).
2. Resident sentiment information culled by the Zencity tool can be analyzed in conjunction with data on positive case social interactions (Figures 7 and 8, below) to both gauge previous outreach and enforcement efforts, as well as drive adjustments to the Pledge to Protect Mitigation Plan.

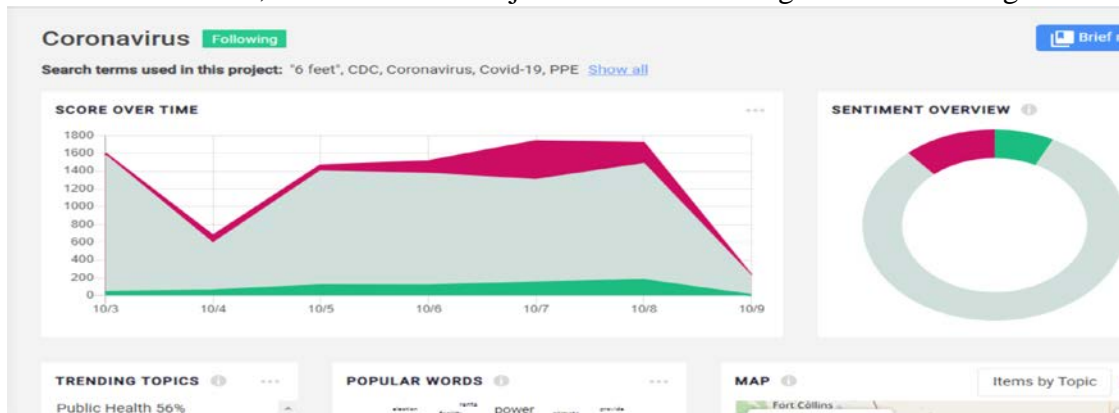


Figure 6: Zencity Analysis using the term Coronavirus



COVID19 Case Investigation (Sept 29 - Current)
Reported Interactions Prior to Infectious Period

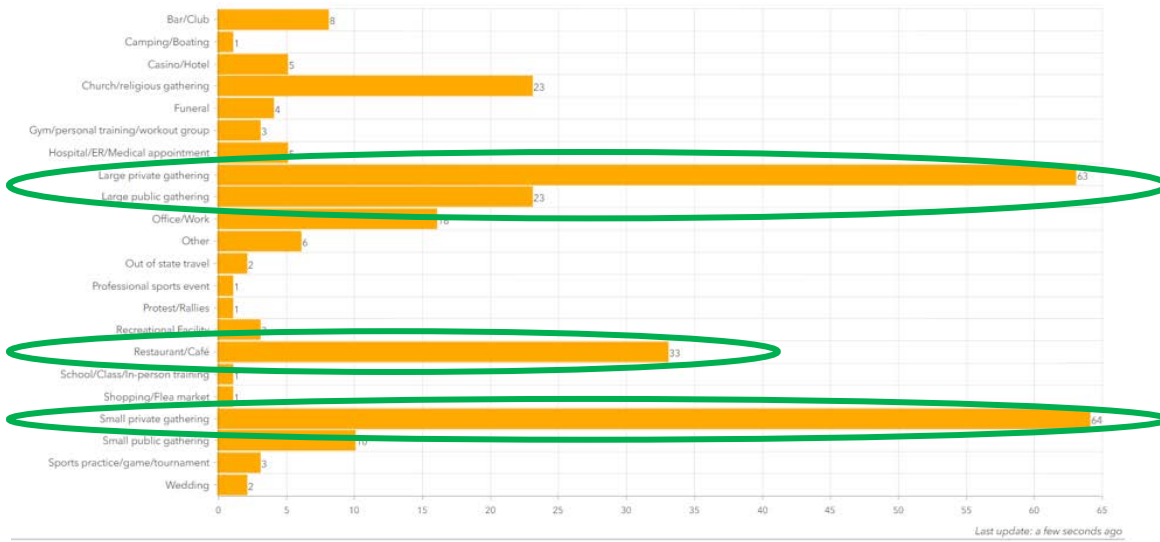


Figure 7: Social Interactions Prior to Symptom Onset

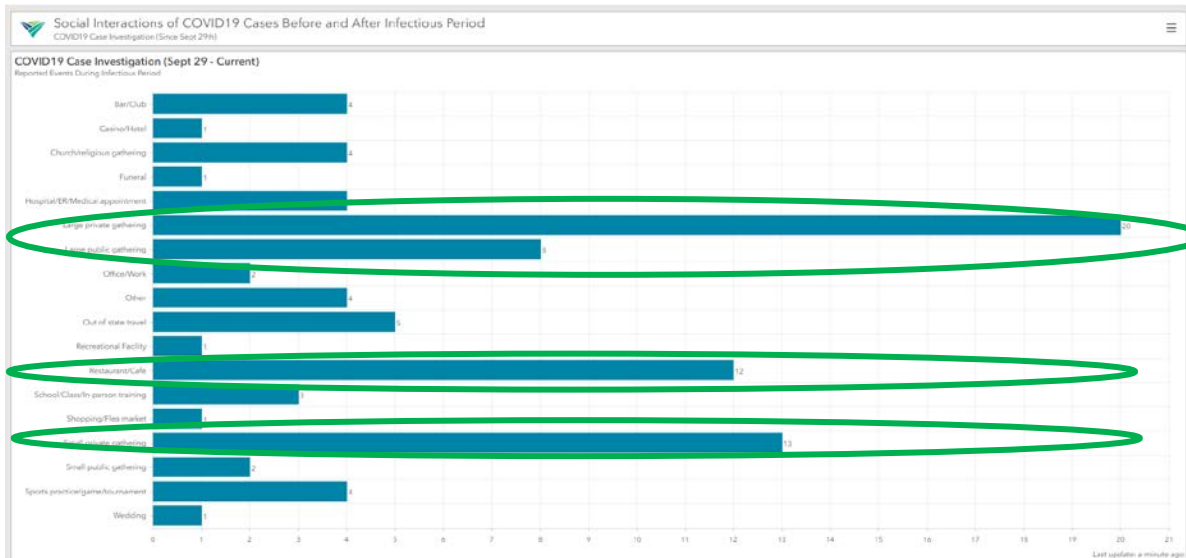


Figure 8: Social Interactions After Symptom Onset

Partnering with Local School Districts to Keep In-Person Learning

1. Adams County recognizes the critical work being done by our local school districts and, as such, recognizes them as essential businesses in maintaining the health, welfare, and safety of our community.
2. As an essential service across our county, school districts have pledged to continue to follow all necessary protocols to ensure our continued success and sharing the safety of our students during in-person learning.
3. School districts have developed and implemented detailed bio-security plans that address everything from PPE requirements, to health/symptom screenings, to “cohorting” classrooms, to traffic flow and group gatherings, pick-up/drop-off, and changes to policies/procedures (just to name a few)



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4. Adams County will coordinate with school districts and testing providers for continuity in test site locations and testing capacity.
5. Districts will also use their own communication channels to deliver community-directed messaging, through individual PSAs and broader comms from the County and its partners.

Business-Oriented Interventions

Enclosed, crowded, and poorly-ventilated environmental conditions that may be associated with certain workplace settings, some of which were deemed essential businesses, are all elevated risk factors affecting transmission of SARS-CoV-2, made evident by the county's local outbreak data (Figure 9). To address transmission in workplace settings, business-oriented interventions aimed at reducing crowded conditions, evaluating indoor ventilation, and improving adherence to public health measures have been evaluated as effective short-term strategies for mitigating COVID-19 in Adams County. Adams County collaborated with partners from the business community, local governments, TCHD and the county Rapid Response and Recovery Teams in identifying the following mitigation strategies for implementation.

Strategies Identified in Business Response and Recovery Teams convened in early October:

1. Provide financial support through CARES Act "mini" grants to help businesses setup outdoor space that allows for increased capacity and continued operations
2. Align with Colorado Restaurant Association's effort to push out testing opportunities (COVID Check) to larger businesses. Work with businesses to participate in mobile testing when wastewater testing indicates individual test Mobile testing roll-out to businesses as warranted by wastewater test results.
3. Expand test opportunities for smaller businesses/restaurants.
4. Require inspections of high-volume businesses and large employers in coordination with Tri-County Health Department.

Cohesive Messaging and Communications in Partnership with the Business Community, Business and Trade Associations, Municipalities, and TCDH.

1. In response to rapidly increasing positive cases, Adams County engaged its business community network initially on October 8th through an emergency joint-session of the County's established Business Retention Response & Recovery Team (RRT) and Emergency Response Council (ERC), in planning and mitigation strategy development. Additionally, the local and regional Chambers of Commerce, Colorado Restaurant Association, and various trade associations have been engaged, as well as local elected leaders to better coordinate and convey messaging on the COVID-19 Dial system and current COVID conditions. These conversations also helped to better understand and establish business best practices:
 - ✓ Better and more prominent signage on proper masking and social distancing technique within businesses to be seen by customers and staff
 - ✓ Business COVID operations planning in line with CDC, CDPHE, and TCHD guidance documents
 - ✓ Adams County *COVID Hotspot and Outbreak Smartphone App for iOS and Android*
Using CARES Act funds, the County ITi Team will create a map based mobile app similar to those developed by other state public health agencies, which will spatially display hotspot



PLEDGE TO PROTECT COVID MITIGATION PLAN

areas and locations of active outbreaks. In conjunction with this effort to provide clear and transparent information to county residents, Adams County will work directly with businesses and organizations displaying on the COVID App on CARES Act funded “mini-grants” to address issues pertaining to transmission and exposure risks.

2. Targeted Communications for the LatinX and Hispanic workforce
 - ✓ Through the Response and Recovery Team Partnerships with Business and Community Stakeholders, Adams County and TCHD will deliver Spanish Language material and media to ensure consistent, accurate and timely information on COVID, necessary precautions and public health order mandates is delivered to the LatinX and Hispanic workforce.
3. Notification Letters from individual Municipalities and the County
 - ✓ Following the Westminster and Federal Heights model, Adams County and other jurisdictions with hot spot locations will send notification letters (see Attachment 2 for examples) to businesses where TCHD has received complaints pertaining to public health measures. These letters are intended to remind the business of the requirements under public health orders (PHO) and their role in adhering to and enforcing such measures. Businesses receiving these letters will be monitored for future compliance and may even be subject to compliance visits.
 - ✓ TCHD tracks resident complaints pertaining to businesses not abiding public health order mandates and will continue with direct business outreach aimed at bringing problem businesses into compliance with PHO.

Business Engagement in COVID-19 Suppression through Site Visits

1. Business Site Visits and Mitigation Outreach within Hotspot Areas
 - ✓ TCHD continues to actively engage businesses, specifically those receiving complaints, in addressing issues and modifying operations to align with PHO requirements and the COVID-19 Dial system.
 - ✓ Adams County and Municipal Partners in cooperation with TCHD will roll-out a targeted campaign aimed at evaluating “high-risk” businesses (those where two or more risk transmission factors are present) through random site visits or spot checks. Contact tracing data also indicates social interactions involving restaurants and bars prior to symptom onset is still a risk factor.
 - Where issues are observed, communication with on-site management will occur. Additional follow-up with owners or corporate partners may also be necessary.
 - TCHD will track initial site visits, observed issues, and subsequent visits after outreach and engagement on public health orders and compliance measures.
 - Documented, repeated violations of mandated public health orders or flagrant disregard of those mandates will result in written notices and possible fines.
 - ✓ The County is partnering with local Chambers of Commerce to provide mini-grant dollars to businesses to help with COVID operations and compliance during this period. This money



PLEDGE TO PROTECT COVID MITIGATION PLAN

could also be tailored to better help businesses address risk factors within their operations and facility to better respond to outbreaks and economic impacts of mitigating risks.

- ✓ Stronger cooperation with various industry and trade associations to self-monitor membership and provide relevant, current, and useful information to businesses they engage

2. Inspection and Enforcement of Indoor Sports and Recreation Centers

- ✓ Given the prevalence of indoor sports arenas and recreation centers open to residents and operating under Level 2 restrictions, Adams County in partnership with local jurisdictions and TCHD are implementing a targeted outreach and education initiative for these business types.
- ✓ TCHD will develop a business-specific Guidance Document for Indoor Sports and Recreation Centers.

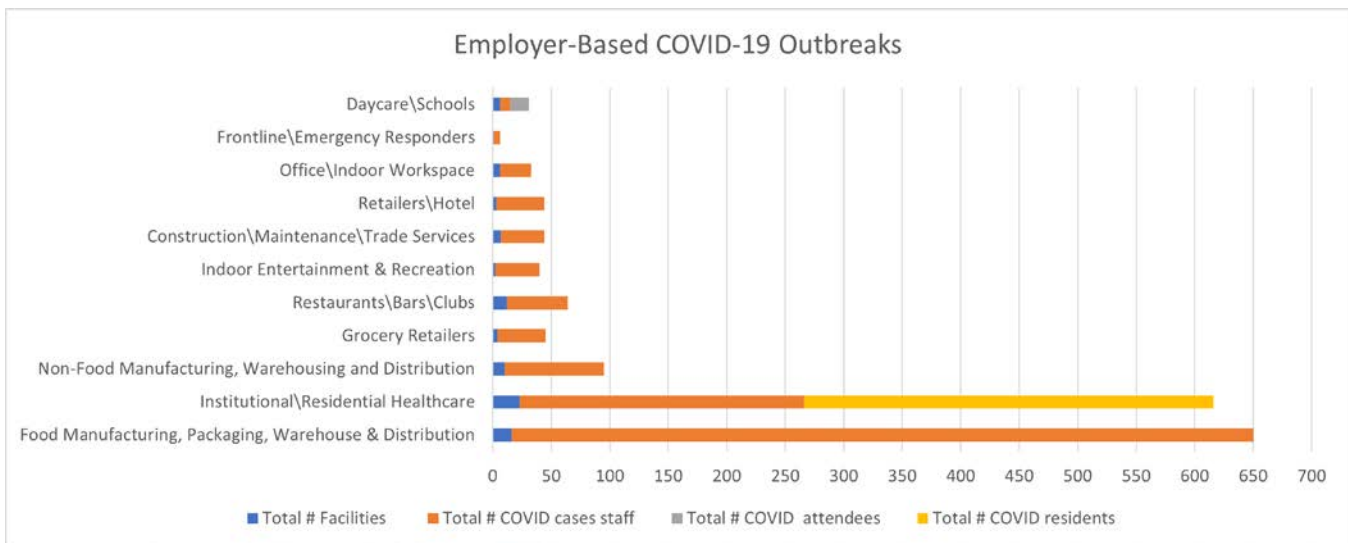


Figure 9: Adams County Outbreak Data (Source: CDPHE)

Community Scale Strategies

Pledge to Protect Social Media Campaign

1. The ***Pledge to Protect*** campaign will run through the county’s COVID website, social media pages, the Adams County COVID smartphone app, as advertisements, and through other media channels. In the ***Pledge to Protect*** campaign, residents, local elected leaders, community leaders and business owners pledge to protect themselves, their neighbors and their community in order to keep businesses and schools open by: 1) Wearing a mask when in public, small and large gatherings; 2) Maintaining 6-ft distance between themselves and others; 3) Washing hands regularly or using hand sanitizer frequently; 4) Regularly sanitizing high touch surfaces like cell phones, iPods, steering wheels and surfaces in the home; 5) Immediately getting tested at the onset of any COVID-19 symptoms or notified of close contact with someone positive; 6) Staying home and isolating when sick and/or COVID-positive.

- ✓ The ***Pledge to Protect*** campaign will feature video pledges by leaders from the business community and trade associations.



PLEDGE TO PROTECT COVID MITIGATION PLAN

- ✓ **Pledge to Protect** decals, magnets, and stickers available to the public at government buildings, businesses, and by request via media channels.
- ✓ **Pledge to Protect** videos featuring seniors, families, and those vulnerable to COVID reiterating the message to stop the spread by following public health measures.
- ✓ Businesses that take the pledge will be featured in app-driven PSA videos.

Wastewater COVID Testing and Rapid Response Mobile Testing Pilot Program

1. Adams County is funding a pilot program to test wastewater for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 within hotspot area drainage basins at neighborhood and business-level scales. Wastewater testing can help detect COVID-19 days before any individuals in the area show symptoms or signs of CoVID-19 infection. Where threshold levels of SARS-CoV-2 are exceeded, rapid deployment of mobile testing in partnership with Thornton Fire’s EMS Strike Team will provide residents and/or employees within that particular drainage area the opportunity for free and convenient COVID testing. Adams County will perform the wastewater testing, as well as provide PCR test kits to Thornton Fire EMS staff. The MAKO Water World testing center has agreed to complete test analysis. We are currently working with MAKO on finalizing the details of the wastewater testing plan and turnaround schedule for returned PCR test kits.
2. Information on the county’s low-wage, under-resourced wage compensation program, CARES Act mini-grant business program, and other assistance programs will be provided to all residents and businesses participating in this pilot program.

Coordination with Area Hospitals and Clinics

1. In partnership with area hospitals, Adams County Communications is developing Public Service Announcement videos with messaging on public health measures and COVID safety regarding family gatherings, Halloween, and holiday events.
2. County support of TCHD Flu Shot Clinics operated throughout October.

Partnership with Adams County Foundation

1. Adams County will facilitate coordination between local non-profit organizations and the Adams County Foundation to issue hotel vouchers for temporary quarantine/isolation housing needs.

Mitigation Plan Timeline

<i>September 28</i>	<i>Notification from CDPHE of incidence rate trend requiring submission of Mitigation Plan</i>
<i>October 6-9</i>	<i>Adams County Stakeholders meeting to develop mitigation strategy</i>
<i>October 12</i>	<i>Provide draft mitigation plan to municipal and local government partners</i>
<i>October 13</i>	<i>Submit Pledge to Protect Mitigation Plan to CDPHE</i>
<i>October 13</i>	<i>Begin implementing Pledge to Protect Mitigation Plan strategies</i>
<i>October 14</i>	<i>CDPHE meeting to review submitted Pledge to Protect Mitigation Plan</i>
<i>October 26</i>	<i>2-week Incidence Rate and Dial Metrics evaluated TCHD & Adams County evaluates Mitigation Plan Performance Indicators</i>



References

M Cevik, M Tate, O Lloyd, A E Maraolo, J Schafers, A Ho. (2020). SARS-CoV-2, SARS-CoV-418 1 and MERS-CoV viral load dynamics, duration of viral shedding and infectiousness: a living systematic review and meta-analysis. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.07.25.20162107>

Cevik, Muge and Marcus, Julia and Buckee, Caroline and Smith, Tara, SARS-CoV-2 Transmission Dynamics Should Inform Policy (September 14, 2020). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3692807> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3692807>

Rose TC, Mason K, Pennington A. (May 5,2020). Inequalities in COVID19 mortality related to ethnicity and socioeconomic deprivation. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.04.25.20079491>



Attachment 1
External Communications Plan



External Communication

- **Videos**
 - o Produce a video explaining the Dial levels and what the County is at risk of in level three
 - o Producing two to three videos with small businesses with a testimonial about what their experience was when shut down and how we can prevent that going forward.
 - o Possibly produce a couple videos with community members who have been directly affected by COVID (have experienced COVID or a family member has - TBD right now)
- **Social Media Campaign**
 - o Share video series on social and ask partner municipalities to do the same
 - o Rotating messages of wear your mask, get tested, TCHD info and guidance
- **Billboards**
 - o The county has access to four billboards located throughout the county – we are currently displaying the Water World COVID testing site but will change some to a “do your part” community message
- **Radio Ads**
 - o Currently have radio ads running on two Spanish speaking radio stations in Denver promoting the Water World testing site – checking in to switching these to the “do your part” messaging
 - TCHD is doing additional advertising on the level 3 messaging
- **Media Outreach**
 - o Once videos are produced, reach out to media outlets, and ask them to share the message
 - o Work with local reporters to get the word out about potentially moving to level 3
- **Community Partners**
 - o Partner with the Response & Recovery Teams to share out the videos and info we post on social, etc.
 - o Work with local municipalities to partner on messaging (I have a meeting with them on Monday – will know more after that)
- **Digital Newsletter**
 - o We have a COVID-specific newsletter we send out bi-weekly (changing back to weekly) that includes all things COVID – will share out all messaging weekly and resources available to the community

Internal Communication

- **Employee Newsletter**
 - o Including information each week in our Employee News to our 2,300 plus employees
 - o Weekly information will also be posted on myAdams (employee intranet)
- **County Manager Email Message**
 - o Email reminder from County Manager to work from home as often as possible, if you have to come in, wear a mask at all times when working in the community or in the building, hold virtual meetings, keep six feet apart, wash and sanitize your hands regularly, etc.
- **Videos**
 - o “How to Properly Wear a Mask” video communicated to all employees again (was originally in late May/early June)
 - o People & Culture will use the mask video for all new onboarding
 - o Monthly Wellness Video – will be COVID and flu shot focused (TBD)



Attachment 2

Sample Business Notification Letters

Adams County

Westminster



Your city logo here

Owner and/or Manager Name
Address
COW Business License #

Dear <Name>

[City name] and Tri-County Health Department (TCHD, which covers this region) values our rich and vibrant business community, and is committed to being a good partner. We understand that these uncertain and rapidly changing times have been difficult and challenging, and it is our intention to assist in any way we are able.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that TCHD has recently been contacted regarding a COVID-19-related complaint about your business. The complaint stated:

“Complaint Text.”

[If complaint was for masking: By Executive Order (D 2020 138) of the Governor of the State of Colorado, and pursuant to the City’s adopted Resolution No. 17A, masks or face coverings are required inside all public buildings. The Executive Order specifically states, “...no owner, operator, or manager of a Public Indoor Space, [...] may provide service to individuals or allow an individual to enter or move within that Public Indoor Space, unless the individual is wearing a face covering as required by this Executive Order.”]

[City name] is asking for your help to keep your employees and customers safe by enforcing this requirement at all times. We strongly encourage you to comply with the current iteration of the state Executive Order, [insert link to order].

If you have any questions regarding the Public Health Orders, please contact Tri-County Health Department’s compliance team by email at EHCOVID@tchd.org and a team member will respond.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or other matters related to your business, please contact [insert].

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Point Person]
[Contact Information]



WESTMINSTER

October 1, 2020

[Redacted]

Westminster CO 80031

COW Business License # [Redacted] (License Expired – See Renewal Form)

Dear [Redacted],

The City of Westminster values our rich and vibrant business community, and is committed to being a good partner. We understand that these uncertain and rapidly changing times have been difficult and challenging, and it is our intention to assist in any way we are able.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the City was recently contacted by the Tri-County Health Department regarding a COVID-related complaint about your business. The complaint stated (verbatim):

“Staff is not wearing masks; staff doesn't enforce customers wearing masks and sanitizing is not happening as it is recommended.”

By Executive Order (D 2020 138) of the Governor of the State of Colorado, and pursuant to the City's adopted Resolution No. 17A, masks or face coverings are required inside all public buildings. The Executive Order specifically states, “...no owner, operator, or manager of a Public Indoor Space, [...] may provide service to individuals or allow an individual to enter or move within that Public Indoor Space, unless the individual is wearing a face covering as required by this Executive Order.”

The City of Westminster is asking for your help to keep your employees and customers safe by enforcing this requirement at all times. We strongly encourage you to comply with the Executive Order, <https://www.colorado.gov/governor/2020-executive-orders>. It is the City's desire to partner with you to achieve compliance.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the City Clerk's Office by phone (303) 658-2161, or by email at cityclerk@cityofwestminster.us.

If you have any questions regarding the Public Health orders, please contact Tri-County Health Department's compliance team by email at EHCOVID@tchd.org and a team member will respond.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Michelle Parker, CMC
Westminster City Clerk
(303) 658-2161



Attachment 3

Business Response and Recovery Team

Key Driver – Business Support

Key Driver: Business Support & Retention
 Updated 10.9.20

Objective: Focused on supporting residents experiencing unemployment during the COVID-19 Crisis, and considering what the future economy will look like during recovery.

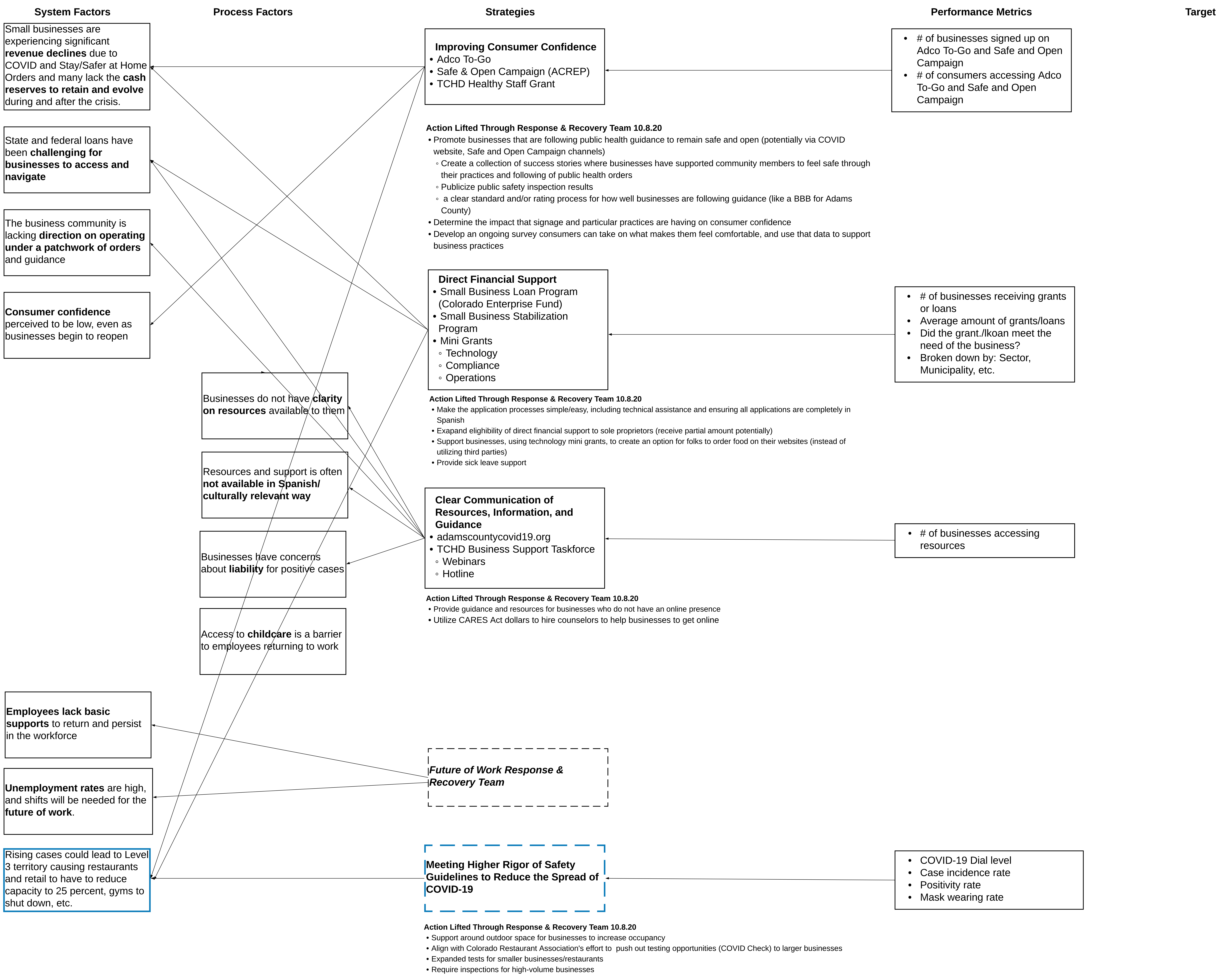
GLOBAL TARGET

Businesses are retained and stabilized through the COVID crisis and beyond.

Indicators

SMART TARGET(S)

[Empty box for SMART target]





Attachment 3
Letters of Support



North Suburban Medical Center
Emergency Preparedness

9191 Grant St.
Thornton, CO 80229
www.northsuburban.com

Executive Director Jill Hunsaker Ryan

Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
4300 Cherry Creek South Drive, Denver, CO 80246

Dear Director Ryan,

Upon review of the Adams County Pledge to Protect Mitigation Plan, we stand in support of the plan that has been put forward by the county.

In the last few weeks, Adams County has seen a troubling spike in confirmed COVID-19 cases. This rise in caseloads has threatened to move Adams County into Safer at Home- Level 3. Understanding the economic and social impact this would cause, the county has worked with businesses, schools, and local health partners to develop mitigation strategies responsive to the community.

It is clear that Adams County has used a strategic approach to identify targeted mitigation measures tailored to address factors influencing transmission within Adams County communities as indicated by disease surveillance data and other monitoring systems.

We are prepared and ready to work with county leadership to address the concerning increase in COVID-19 cases within the county.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Tice".

Benjamin Tice
Manager of Emergency Services and Preparedness
Facility Safety Officer
North Suburban Medical Center
O 303-450-4516
C 720-201-2637
Benjamin.Tice@healthONEcares.com



We extend the healing ministry of Christ by caring for those who are ill and by nurturing the health of the people in our communities.

October 12, 2020

VIA EMAIL – KKeefe@adcogov.org

Katie Keefe
Environmental Program Manager
Community & Economic Development Department
Adams County, CO
4430 South Adams County Parkway
Suite W200A
Brighton, CO 80601


RE: St. Anthony North Health Campus

Dear Katie:

In response to the request for documentation in support of Adams County's "Pledge to Protect - COVID Mitigation Plan," St. Anthony North Health Campus acknowledges the Adams County plan to address the concerning increase in COVID-19 cases within Adams County. St. Anthony North Health Campus will continue to monitor its available ICU beds and ventilators, and it regularly monitors its supply of personal protective equipment and hospital staff in anticipation of and in preparation for a surge or resurgence of COVID-19 patients. St. Anthony North Health Campus has reviewed the Plan and is prepared to serve COVID-19 patients in Adams County.

Regards,

Centura Health
for St. Anthony North Health Campus



Kris Ordelheide
Senior Vice President
& General Counsel

cc: Constance Schmidt, President & CEO – St. Anthony Hospital
Andrew French, MD, CMO – St. Anthony Hospital

October 13, 2020

On April 26, Gov. Jared Polis issued Executive Order, D 2020 044, Safer at Home (the "**Executive Order**"). Section II.M. of the Executive Order, provides for application for variances for the Executive Order as follows:

"Any county wishing to apply for a local variance from part or all of this Executive Order must submit a written application to CDPHE certifying that the county has low case counts of COVID-19 cases or can document fourteen (14) consecutive days of decline in COVID-19 cases reported in the county. The application must include a written COVID-19 suppression plan approved by the appropriate local public health authority, all hospitals within the county (unless no hospitals are located in the county), and a majority of the county commissioners, or, in the case of the City and County of Denver, the mayor of Denver, or, in the case of the City and County of Broomfield, the city council."

Pursuant to the Executive Order, UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital ("**Hospital**") has been asked by Adams County ("**County**") to review the County's "Pledge to Protect" COVID-19 Revised Mitigation Plan with respect to the County's request for a Revised Variance (the "**Variance Request**"), dated October 13, 2020, under the Executive Order.

In reviewing the County's "Pledge to protect" COVID-19 Mitigation Plan, and except as expressly set forth below, Hospital assumes the completeness and accuracy of all facts and assumptions set forth in the Variance Request; however, Hospital does not provide an opinion with respect to the accuracy or completeness of such facts or assumptions. Hospital is also expressly relying on completeness and accuracy of data for current and estimated rates of infection and hospitalizations in and around the County's primary service area provided to Hospital by the County and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment ("**CDPHE**"). Finally, Hospital does not opine on the secondary effect of people traveling to or from the County's primary service area to other locations in the State or nationally.

Based on the foregoing assumptions:

1. Hospital currently has 17 ICU beds available and such ICU beds are sufficient for Hospital to provide its usual and customary care for COVID-19 patients based on the current infection data;
2. Hospital currently has 24 ventilators available and such ventilators are sufficient for Hospital to provide its usual and customary care for COVID-19 patients based on current infection data;
3. Hospital has adequate personal protective equipment ("**PPE**") to provide its usual and customary care for COVID-19 patients based on current infection data; and
4. Hospital has adequate levels of hospital staff to provide its usual and customary care for COVID-19 patients based on current infection data.

Based solely on the foregoing, and subject to the qualifications and limitations set forth herein, Hospital believes that it can provide the services as set forth in the County's COVID-19

Mitigation Plan. Hospital believes that both the County and CDPHE should actively monitor the accuracy of, and any changes to, the assumptions and facts set forth in the Request. Hospital shall update the County and CDPHE if the facts set forth in #1-4 above materially and adversely change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Gronow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and a long, sweeping underline.

Tom Gronow, Ed.D., M.H.A
Chief Operating Officer
UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital
UCHealth Metro Denver

Katie Keefe
Environmental Program Manager
Adams County
4430 South Adams County Parkway, 1st Floor, Suite W2000A
Brighton, CO 80601

October 13, 2020

Dear Mrs. Keefe:

On April 26, Gov. Jared Polis announced the state's shift from the "Stay at Home" phase of COVID-19 management to "Safer at Home" (memorialized in Executive Order D 2020 044). The "Safer at Home" Executive Order allows for local variances to decrease state-level standards, and CHA provided a hospital template for responding to local variance requests.

In the first week of July, the governor and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) promulgated an Executive Order (D 2020 127), Public Health Order (2032), and guidelines for local communities to further relax COVID-19 standards under the banner of the "Protect Our Neighbors" phase of COVID-19 management. This phase also allows for local variances, but subject to state-level certification.

The Safer at Home standards issued in April remain in place unless a community qualifies for Protect Our Neighbors certification. As such, in this document, we provide templates for both 1) local variances under "Safer at Home" as well as 2) local certifications under "Protect Our Neighbors," as both types of processes require hospital input, and local jurisdictions have the choice of which process and standards should apply at this time.

On July 9, Gov. Polis issued Executive Order D 2020-127 creating the "Protect Our Neighbors" phase of COVID-19 response and requiring Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment ("CDPHE") to issue a Public Health Order establishing a certification process and criteria for local communities to enter the Protect Our Neighbors phase. On July 10, CDPHE issued Public Health Order 20-32, which sets forth such criteria and aligns with similar guidance issued by CDPHE on July 7. Among other requirements, local communities – including individual counties or multi-county "regional collaboratives" – must submit a Letter of Attestation from their local hospital(s) detailing sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE) and treatment capacity exists should a surge of hospitalizations occur.

Pursuant to PHO 20-32 and the "Protect Our Neighbors Certification Form Guide" issued by

CDPHE on July 7, Children’s Hospital Colorado (“**CHCO**”) has been asked by Adams County (“**Local Government**”) to review the Local Government’s COVID-19 Containment Plan outlined in the Local Government’s Protect Our Neighbors Certification Form (the “**Certification Form**”), dated October 12, 2020.

In reviewing the Local Government’s COVID-19 Containment Plan, and except as expressly set forth below, the Hospital assumes the completeness and accuracy of all facts and assumptions set forth in the Certification form; however, CHCO does not provide an opinion with respect to the accuracy of the completeness of such facts or assumptions. CHCO is also expressly relying on completeness of such facts or assumptions. CHCO is also expressly relying on completeness and accuracy of data for current and estimated rates of infection and hospitalizations in and around Adam County’s primary service areas provided to CHCO. Finally, CHCO does not opine on the secondary effect of people traveling to and from Adam County’s primary service area to other locations in the State or nationally.

Based on the foregoing assumptions:

1. CHCO has sufficient bed capacity for Hospital to provide its usual and customary care for COVID-19 patients and a twenty (20) percent increase of hospitalizations due to new admissions or patient transfers based on current infection data;
2. CHCO has patient transfer agreements in place for transfer of COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 patients;
3. CHCO has sufficient supplies of personal protective equipment (“**PPE**”) to provide its usual and customary care for COVID-19 patients and a two (2) weeks’ supply of PPE available using current PPE use standards and based on current infection data.

Based solely on the foregoing, and subject to the qualifications and limitations set forth herein, CHCO believes that it can provide the services as set forth in Adam County’s COVID-19 Containment Plan. Hospital further believes that both the Local Government and CDPHE should actively monitor the accuracy of, and any changes to, the assumptions and facts set forth in the Certification Form. Hospital shall update the Local Government and CDPHE if the facts set forth in #1-3 above materially and adversely change.

Respectfully,

Heidi Baskfield

Heidi Baskfield

Vice President Population Health & Advocacy



Pledge to Protect COVID Mitigation Plan

Executive Director Jill Hunsaker Ryan
Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
4300 Cherry Creek South Drive, Denver, CO 80246

Dear Director Ryan,

Platte Valley Medical Center has reviewed the Adams County Pledge to Protect Mitigation Plan, we support the Plan's pro-active concepts that has been put forward by the county.

We agree that in the last few weeks, Adams County has experienced a spike in confirmed COVID-19 cases. This rise in caseloads may move Adams County into Safer at Home- Level 3. Understanding the economic and social impact this would cause, the county has worked with businesses, schools, and local health partners to develop mitigation strategies responsive to the community.

The Plan identifies a strategic approach to identify targeted mitigation measures tailored to address factors influencing transmission within Adams County communities as indicated by disease surveillance data and other monitoring systems.

We are prepared and ready to work with county leadership to address the concerning increase in COVID-19 cases within the county.

Sincerely,

Wendy L. Colón, CHEP, NHDP-BC, MBA, BSN, RN
Emergency Manager
Director, Emergency Department
Colorado Associate Emergency Manager
Platte Valley Medical Center
1600 Prairie Center Parkway
Brighton, CO 80601
P:(303) 498-1909 (office)
C:(303) 929-3006 (cell)
wendy.colon@sclhealth.org