

**August 17, 2020 - Boylston Board of Health – TWENTY-FIVE CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES IN BOYLSTON  
TWENTY-THREE RESIDENTS RECOVERED**

On August 17, 2020, the Boylston Board of Health was notified of the twenty-fifth Boylston resident who has tested positive for COVID-19. *As of August 12, 2020, twenty-three of the twenty-five residents are now outside of the 14-day quarantine window.* The Boylston Board of Health will continue to work with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) to ensure any affected residents are properly monitored, quarantined, and isolated per the guidelines set by MDPH.

The Boylston Board of Health cannot release any personal information regarding cases due to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). Each confirmed case will be contacted by the Board of Health. Those considered to have been in close contact with a confirmed case will be contacted by the Board of Health with proper instructions regarding quarantine and testing.

Starting March 30<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Health will give weekly updates every Monday regarding the number of confirmed and presumptive cases in Boylston. These updates will be posted no later than 4 PM. The Boylston Board of Health urges residents to practice social distancing including staying home as much as possible, avoiding large gatherings, and staying a minimum of six feet away from others.

Most recent MDPH updates regarding numbers of cases in Massachusetts by state and county: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-cases-quarantine-and-monitoring>

Massachusetts residents are recommended to use Mass 2-1-1 for information, resources, and referrals regarding COVID-19. Operators are staffing this hotline 24/7 and translators are available in multiple languages. Residents with questions can dial 2-1-1 from any landline or cellphone or use the live chat option on the Mass 2-1-1 website ([mass211.org](https://mass211.org)). **Mass 2-1-1** partners with the **Massachusetts** Emergency Management Agency (**MEMA**) and local offices of emergency management to provide citizens with critical information and non-emergency assistance before, during and after emergency or disaster events.

## **Preventing Exposure**

The following precautionary actions will help prevent exposure to any respiratory viruses, including seasonal influenza and Coronavirus:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use alcohol-based hand sanitizers.
- Cough/sneeze into a tissue and dispose of used tissues immediately. If you do not have a tissue then cough/sneeze into the crook of your elbow, *not on your hands*.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, which can accelerate the spread of infections.
- Avoid close contact with others who are sick.
- If you are sick, seek health care and avoid contact with others and avoid large social gatherings, meetings, and events.
- Practice social distancing.

## **Contact Information**

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