

March 13, 2020

***Statement from Wabash County leaders regarding COVID-19***

To the Wabash County community,

This afternoon, Friday, March 13, a coalition of community leaders representing the many interests of Wabash County met to establish a unified response to the most recent developments regarding COVID-19, also known as the Coronavirus.

Accounting for the recommendations that have been shared by not only the Indiana State Department of Health but also the Center for Disease Control (CDC), community leaders are encouraging the postponement or cancellation of any ***non-essential*** gatherings or operations for the time being.

*As of Friday, March 13:*

All Wabash County school corporations have made the decision to suspend in-person classes until the conclusion of spring break on April 13.

The Honeywell Foundation and its various properties have also made the decision to cancel or postpone all events and movies until April 9.

High-traffic community areas and facilities are continually adjusting their policies and operations to ensure they continue to serve the public with respect to the health and safety of their employees, customers and the public at large. Prior to attending an upcoming event or visiting any local businesses, be sure to check their specific social media and/or websites for the most up-to-date information.

Essential services including law enforcement, emergency services, medical services, will continue to operate. Public transit through Living Well in Wabash County and local food pantries also have plans to remain open and operating. Community members are encouraged to connect with those organizations beforehand to make note of any potential changes.

Please consider these recommended adjustments to local operations with this in mind: The decision to encourage “social distancing” at this time is not in response to any confirmed cases in Wabash County, but as a means to prevent the spread of any potential illness.

In addition to refraining from attending large gatherings or frequenting public spaces, the CDC has several recommendations to keep you and your family healthy.

The CDC recommends:

- Washing hands frequently for at least 20 seconds.
- Stay home if you have a fever or other flu-like symptoms, cough or cold.
- Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing.
- Regularly cleaning high-traffic and high-touch surfaces in your home or business.

A full list of ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19 as well as additional information can be found at: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) or on the Indiana Department of Health website, [www.in.gov/isdh](http://www.in.gov/isdh).

Please note that developments regarding COVID-19 are being updated regularly. As new information is made available, organizations and community leaders will continue to revisit these decisions and determine the next steps of action.

We appreciate the community's patience and support during this time.