General Information About COVID-19

What is COVID-19?

It is a short way of saying Coronavirus Disease 2019. It’s nickname is Coronavirus. It is a disease that causes problems in the lungs. It spreads from one person to another person.

How Do You Get It?

Someone with COVID-19 gives you, their germs. You cannot see the germs. By breathing close to you their germs get in the air, on you, and on things.

- Germs get into your body through your mouth, nose, and your eyes. This is the main way to get COVID-19.
- Some people who have COVID-19 do not show it. They can still get you sick.
- If you touch something with germs on it and then touch your face, you might get sick. This is a less likely way to get COVID-19.
Signs and Symptoms of COVID-19

Some people who have COVID-19 do not show it. They might not even know they are sick. Some signs or symptoms include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough or Sore throat
- Hard time breathing
- Lose your sense of taste or smell
- Runny nose
- Tired, your whole body feels weak
- Headache, muscle or body aches
- An upset stomach, nausea or diarrhea

If you are having symptoms call your doctor. If it is an emergency, call 911 or go to the hospital. You can find a full list of symptoms at:

If you Have Been Exposed to COVID-19 and Are Sick

Call your doctor.

☑ Do not go to your doctor’s office unless your doctor tells you to go to the office.

☑ Do not go to the hospital unless your doctor tells you to go to the hospital.

Tell your doctor if you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19. Describe how you are feeling. Describe your symptoms.

Tell your doctor if you have been to a place or an event where people were sick with COVID-19.

If you are having trouble breathing, call 911. For all medical emergencies, call 911.
Finding Out if You Have COVID-19 and Getting Treatment

Your doctor will decide if you should be tested for COVID-19.

As of October 2020, there is no vaccine.
There are no approved medicines for COVID-19.

Many people have no symptoms and do not get very sick. Some people who get COVID-19 become very ill and need to go to a hospital.

Know your rights. People with disabilities are allowed to bring a supporter with them when in a hospital or a doctor’s office.

To see a video made by self-advocates about your rights go to:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9y1rOWyf_XM&t=6s