## WCHD's COVID-19 RESPONSE

#### June 16, 2020



## Current Status in Winnebago County

https://wings.maps.arcgis.com/apps/o psdashboard/index.html#/a173a1682b b54bbe90db1468820ca803



Winnebago County Wisconsin COVID-19 Public Dashboard\*





\* Does not include data from the portions of the City of Menasha or City of Appleton that fall within Winnebago County

most often directed to self-monitor at home without testing.

## **Current Status in Winnebago County**

- Have been seeing significant increases among 20-29 age range since Safer at Home was struck down
- Outbreaks at workplaces and staff shortages (e.g. day cares, long-term care facilities)
- Last week, Oshkosh-Neenah area was named #6 in the nation by the New York Times for highest average daily growth rate of cases. With a 7% growth rate and doubling of cases every 10.2 days, the Oshkosh-Neenah area is identified as one of the top locations where we might see the next large COVID-19 outbreak.
   Fortunately, in the past week things have settled down, hopefully reducing our likelihood of a significant outbreak.
- Contact tracers have collected info about activities of people in this age group attending large gatherings/holidays, not wearing masks, not physical distancing, & frequenting crowded establishments



## Winnebago County residents\* aged 20-29 are disproportionately affected by COVID-19 (N=469). (6/14/2020)



WCHD Confirmed Cases
Winnebago County Demographics

WI Confirmed Cases



### **Background Information - How did we get here?**

- WI Supreme Court struck down the statewide Safer at Home order because it did not comply with the state's rulemaking procedures; not because of its content. The decision only addressed DHS's authority in Wis. Stat. § 252.02. That statute does not govern the authority of local health officers, which is separately set out in Wis. Stat. § 252.03
- WI Attorney General's opinion advised local orders may not be enforceable unless a local ordinance is in place to permit enforcement
- Institutions of WI State Government have determined that individual municipalities must take charge of managing enforcement of public health orders at a local level
- State legislature has indicated they will not take statewide action at this time and the outbreak response should be managed locally instead



### **Purpose of the ordinance amendment**

- Adopt current <u>State Statute</u> language at the local health department level
- Re-establishes health department authority to enforce orders if necessary currently due to AG's opinion, we can only request voluntary compliance with orders, recommendations and guidelines if no local ordinance exists
- Meant to be a tool to protect the community's health and safety if needed
- The purpose and intent of any potential future orders would be to ensure they are narrowly tailored to address specific situations where a cluster or outbreak of cases is identified and immediate action is needed to stop the threat
- Goal is to be the least restrictive as possible to adequately protect the public's health
- No intention of issuing orders immediately no orders have been drafted or planned
- No jurisdictions in Wisconsin are operating under orders like Safer at Home at this time all have moved into reopening phase orders
- Not meant as a tool to shut down businesses



### What happens if the amendment doesn't pass?

- If the amendment isn't supported, there would be no way to enforce orders that help stop the spread of disease in an outbreak. Like law enforcement not being able to issue a citation for speeding, the health department wouldn't be able to enforce the removal of communicable disease threats in the community. This extends beyond the current COVID-19 crisis.
- In addition, per <u>Wis. Stat. § 252.03(3)</u>, if the local authorities (local health department) fail to enforce the communicable disease State Statutes and rules, the department (the state health department) shall take charge, and expenses thus incurred shall be paid by the county or municipality.
- In the event the ordinance amendment does not pass, the Winnebago County Health Department will continue to offer guidance; however, following the guidance would be voluntary and identified public health threats may persist.



# In what other ways is public health addressing COVID-19?

- Monitoring the status of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases in Winnebago County
- Making testing more available
- Increasing contact tracing capacity
- Maintaining availability of isolation and quarantine facilities as needed
- Working directly with businesses that have positive cases among their workforce

