



Our Mission: Supporting people with disabilities and their families

Stark DD's response as our county moves to Purple advisory level

December 3, 2020

Good evening,

It happened – Stark County has triggered all seven indicators and we moved to Purple under the Ohio Public Advisory System today. Level 4, or Purple, is the highest level of the advisory system. Residents are encouraged to stay home and only travel for essentials. Know we are always concerned for the welfare of the people we serve, families, our employees, and our provider community, but never more in the midst of this worsening pandemic. Yes, there is light at the end of the tunnel, and we expect the vaccine to bring some semblance of normalcy in 2021, but until then we will have a couple of tough months.

As was communicated on November 23, 2020, our schools will remain open because we believe that it is the safest place for our students; however, we are ceasing all in-home supports and visits for students, families served in early intervention, and monitoring performed by our SSAs, RNQAs, and Provider Compliance, unless there is a specific health and safety issue. This decision is made to protect each of you and reduce exposure for all. We will resume in-home supports and visits when Stark County returns to Public Health Advisory Level 3 - Color Red.

We remind you that the Board of Developmental Disabilities is available 24 hours a day and seven days a week. We have two emails to assist you with any need:

- If you are a provider, please email: providersupport@starkdd.org. Also, please look for a financial grant opportunity to assist providers with COVID-19 related expenses that will be released tomorrow.
- If you are a person we serve, family member, or other interested party, please email: supportneeded@starkdd.org
- If you need assistance immediately, please call our HOTLINE day or night at 330-477-4477 and someone will reach out to you in 30 minutes or less, or you can always call me at 330-413-0412.

This pandemic seemingly is getting ever closer to us and the people we support. We have established an emergency COVID-19 response team who are prepared to assist where and

when needed. We truly are all in this together. As we go through December and the holidays it brings, "take care of yourself and take care of each other."

Sincerely,

Bill Green, Superintendent

Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities

COVID-19 Symptoms
Help prevent the spread of Covid-19
You may have COVID-19 if you have:

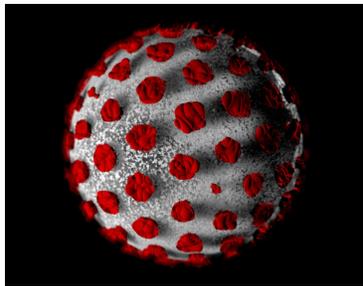
- Fever or chills
- A cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Symptoms may be mild or severe and may appear two to 14 days after exposure to the virus.

MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

Ohio | Department of Health

coronavirus.ohio.gov



RS Southgate School families can monitor updated COVID-19 cases and those in quarantine by visiting our **Stark DD COVID-19** dashboard on our website.

Additional resources from the Stark County Health Department can also be accessed here.

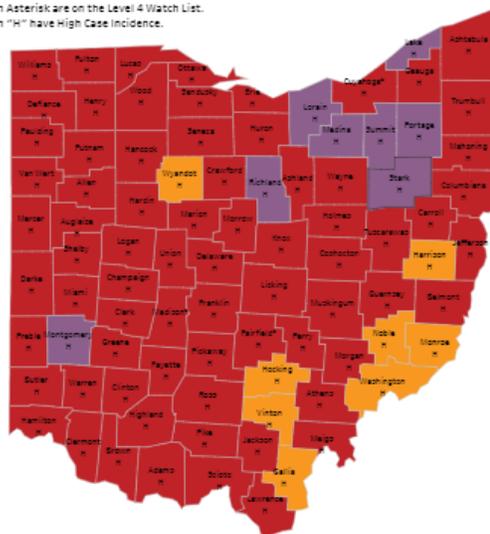
Keep up-to-date on Ohio statistics

This map of the Ohio Public Health Advisory System represents updates through December 3, 2020.

Learn more about the current COVID-19 trends occurring in our state as tracked by the Ohio Department of Health:

- [Ohio School Dashboard](#)
- [Ohio Public Health Advisory System](#)
- [Cases by Zip Code Dashboard](#)

Counties with an Asterisk are on the Level 4 Watch List. Counties with an "H" have High Case Incidence.



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