



Yakima Health District

Media Release

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Health and Human Services (HHS) Alternate Care Site in Yakima, WA

Yakima, WA – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Washington State Department of Health (DOH), and the Yakima Health District announced today that a former Yakima hospital will be used to help support the state’s COVID-19 response.

“This is an example of a strong partnership from all levels of government to bring capacity to the health care system to serve our communities during the COVID-19 response,” said Kristin Peterson, Assistant Secretary for Health Systems Quality Assurance at the Washington State Department of Health.

The Alternate Care Site will be located at 110 S. 9th Ave. Yakima, WA 98902, the site of the former Astria Yakima Regional Center. This location was selected due to the ability to quickly mobilize the necessary infrastructure. A Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers assessment team determined the sites infrastructure suitable, following an April 1 assessment conducted at the request of FEMA and DOH. The care site will be established to take non-COVID-19 transfer patients to free up bed space at area hospitals treating positive cases of COVID-19.

“We worked hard in partnership with our state and federal partners to ensure that Yakima has the resources needed to respond to this outbreak,” said Andre Fresco, Executive Director of the Yakima Health District. “We welcome the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps to Yakima. As community members see our uniformed service members in Yakima, know that they are here to help. Their expertise is invaluable as we work together to create additional healthcare capacity in our community.”

The alternate care site will help existing area hospitals focus on COVID-19 care, while delivering the highest level of care to patients with other needs. Approximately 80 personnel from the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps will staff and operate the site. Once fully operational, the site could support up to 250 hospital beds. The site will not be open for walk-in visits by the general public.

More information will be available as on-site planning progresses.



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Case Count Updates:

Age Range	Case Count
0-19	5
20-29	35
30-39	40
40-49	33
50-59	29
60-69	35
70-79	23
80+	24
Total	224

Current Status	Case Count
At Home, Recovering	207
Currently and Previously Hospitalized	11
Deceased	6
Total	224

Testing Updates:

Testing data is pulled from the Washington State Disease Reporting System. This information is 24-48 hours behind our local case count updates. Information is as of 3/31/20 at 12:47pm. For more information on WA State DOH Reporting Issues click [here](#).

Result	Number Tested	Percent of Tests
Positive	135	9.39%
Negative	1302	90.61%
Total	1437	100%

The Washington Department of Health has established a hotline for the public with questions regarding COVID-19. This number is (800) 525-0127, phone lines are staffed from 6am-10pm. Interpreter services are available in multiple languages.

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