

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kristin Prelipp, Communications Manager and Public Information Officer
kprelipp@orangecountync.gov or 919-245-2462

[LINK TO MEDIA RELEASE](#)

COVID-19 Clusters Reported at UNC-Chapel Hill

HILLSBOROUGH, N.C. August 27, 2020 — The Orange County Health Department is notifying the community of clusters of COVID-19 cases on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus and University-affiliated off-campus properties. A “cluster” is defined by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services as five or more cases that are deemed close proximity in location. “Location” is defined as a single residential hall or dwelling.

The individuals in the clusters have been identified and are isolating and receiving medical monitoring. The Orange County Health Department is working with Campus Health to identify additional potential exposures. Clusters have been identified at the following residence halls and dwellings:

- Ehringhaus Residence Hall
- Hinton James Residence Hall
- Granville Towers
- Carmichael Residence Hall
- Avery Residence Hall
- Craige Residence Hall
- Alpha Delta Pi Sorority House
- Sigma Nu Fraternity House
- Morrison Residence Hall
- Zeta Psi Fraternity House
- Koury Residence Hall
- Avery Residence Hall
- Cobb Residence Hall

Orange County Health Director, Quintana Stewart says, “Health department staff is working closely with Campus Health on case investigation, contact tracing, setting up additional testing opportunities, and working to further de-densify campus.”

All affected residents have been provided access to additional information about the cluster and next steps. Contact tracing has been initiated with direct communication to anyone determined to have been a close contact with a positive individual. A close contact is defined as someone who has been within 6 feet of an infected person for more than 15 minutes when either person has not been wearing a face covering. Those identified as a close contact will be

notified directly and provided with further guidance. In consultation with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and the Orange County Health Department, the University is implementing [mass testing](#). Testing events will be held on Thursday, August 27th and Friday August 28th in Chapel Hill.

Links to Flyers for Thursday, August 27th:

Flyer in

English: https://www.orangecountync.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12587/SM_Covid19Flyer_OrangeCountyHD_ENGLISH

Flyer in

Spanish: https://www.orangecountync.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12588/SM_Covid19Flyer_OrangeCountyHD_SPANISH

Where: Hargraves Community Center
216 North Roberson St.
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

When: Thursday, August 27th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Links to Flyers for Friday, August 28th:

ENGLISH: https://nc-orangecounty.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/12589/SM_Covid19Flyer_OrangeCountyHD_8_28_ENGLISH

SPANISH: https://nc-orangecounty.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/12590/SM_Covid19Flyer_OrangeCountyHD_8_28_SPANISH

Where: R7 Parking Lot
725 M.L.K. Jr. Blvd., Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

When: Friday, August 28th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

As a critical step to stop the spread of COVID-19 and protect family, friends and community, public health officials are directing students departing from campus, those who remain in campus housing, and students who have already returned home to quarantine for 14 days.

What to do when you are in quarantine or isolation

- Stay in your home or residence as much as possible.
- Limit time outside your residence to essential activities only, such as to get medical care, or to get take-out meals if no one is available to bring them to you.
- If you have to leave your home or residence, ALWAYS wear a face covering.

- Do not use public transportation, ride shares, or taxis. If you are leaving campus to go home, arrange private transportation.

Inside your home:

- Separate yourself from others in your home or residence, especially people who are at higher risk of serious illness.
- Stay in a one room and away from other people in your home as much as possible.
- Use a separate bathroom, if available.
- Do not prepare or serve food to others.
- Do not allow visitors into your home.
- Wear a cloth face covering or mask over your nose and mouth if you are in a room with others.
- Others should wear a cloth face covering over their nose and mouth or mask if they need to enter the room.
- Do not share household items such as dishes, cups, utensils, towels, bedding with other people. After using these items, wash them thoroughly with soap and water.
- Clean and disinfect all “high-touch” surfaces daily (including counters, tabletops, doorknobs, faucets, toilets, phones, tv remotes, keys, keyboards), and especially any surfaces that may have body fluids on them. Use household cleaning and disinfectant sprays or wipes, according to the product label instructions.

Anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, shortness of breath, muscle aches or a cough, should immediately contact their medical provider. Campus Health may be reached at 919-966-2281 or the University Employee Occupational Health Clinic 919-966-9119.

Slow the Spread

Orange County Health Director, Quintana Stewart says, “We can all help to bring our COVID-19 numbers down by focusing on the basics: wear a mask when you are in public; avoid gatherings and events; be sure stay six feet or more away from others; and keep your hands clean.”

The University will continue to monitor on-campus behavior and compliance with the University’s [Community Standards](#) and guidelines on [face masks](#), [physical distancing](#) and [gatherings and events](#).

Reliable Information

For the latest information and guidance relating to Orange County’s COVID-19 response:

- Visit www.orangecountync.gov/coronavirus.
- Receive daily text updates on the crisis by texting 888-777 with OCNCEALTH for English speakers and OCNCSALUD for Spanish speakers.
- Sign up for a twice weekly e-newsletter about the COVID-19 response via the [county website](#).

- Follow the Orange County Health Department on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services updates its [COVID-19 case count dashboard](#) daily at 12 p.m.
- To ask questions about the virus or social service needs, contact Orange County at 919-245-6111 or covid19@orangecountync.gov. The phone line and emails are monitored during business hours Monday-Friday.

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