



# KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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**NEWS RELEASE  
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May 11, 2020

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## **Kalamazoo County Releases Public Health Guidance to Reopen Workforce**

Kalamazoo, MI – Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department released public health guidance to reopen workforce in Kalamazoo County today in order to aid industry leaders and community partners in their planning efforts to either reopen or expand current services. The guidance is available at [www.kalcouny.com/hcs/covid19.php](http://www.kalcouny.com/hcs/covid19.php) and includes additional resources on the website for employers like how to access Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), industry-specific guidance from the Michigan Economic Recovery Council, and employee mental health support.

“At the Health & Community Services Department our lens is always public health and how to protect the health and safety of all people within Kalamazoo County. Our goal with this guidance is to provide each industry, business and organization with that same public health lens as they evaluate what they need to do to safely reopen,” said James Rutherford, Health Officer of Kalamazoo County. “We know there is a lot of information out there, but we felt it was important to let our partners know, from a public health perspective, what they should be considering and what they should expect from us at the Health & Community Services Department as we move to safely reopening our community.”

The public health guidance from Kalamazoo County is contingent upon the Governor's Executive Orders, which will provide clarification as to when and in what order industries may open. Governor Whitmer announced the MI Safe Start Plan on May 7, which outlines her plan to re-engage the Michigan's economy.

To date, Kalamazoo County has 606 confirmed positive cases with a COVID-19 positive laboratory test result and has reported 29 deaths. The data is updated daily at 3:00 p.m. on the Kalamazoo County's Data Hub website, [www.kalcouny.com/hcs/datahub/covid19.php](http://www.kalcouny.com/hcs/datahub/covid19.php). The reported cases continue to rise in Kalamazoo County, which is largely contributed to the increase in the testing supplies and testing capacity for the southwest region of Michigan.

Information about the COVID-19 is rapidly changing. For more information, visit [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html), [www.michigan.gov/coronavirus](http://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus), and [www.kalcouny.com/hcs/covid19.php](http://www.kalcouny.com/hcs/covid19.php).

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Health & Community Services Department



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