

**From:** [Ginny Lewis Ford](#)  
**To:** [Kimberly Lile Dowty](#)  
**Subject:** FW: DETCOG Staff Update  
**Date:** Monday, April 6, 2020 12:22:29 PM

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DETCOG Operational Update for COVID blast.

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**From:** Lonnie Hunt <lhunt@detcog.gov>  
**Date:** Friday, April 3, 2020 at 5:35 PM  
**To:** All Staff <broadcast@detcog.org>  
**Subject:** DETCOG Staff Update

*(Copied to the DETCOG Board of Directors)*

**Good afternoon to the best group of employees in the world,**

We're wrapping up another week of this craziness known as COVID-19, and the good news is, we know we can do this! The work is getting done... the bills are getting paid... payday is Tuesday and your check will magically appear in your bank account right on schedule, just as always.

I suspect some of you are enjoying this work-from-home stuff, while others probably aren't. I wish I could tell you this will all be over in a week or two, but it won't. The "experts" I am listening to are saying the peak could be as much as six weeks away. So pace yourself, keep your spirits up, and remember: this is not the first time Americans have had to make great sacrifices. Our generation has been blessed in a mighty way. Our grandparents suffered through the great depression and then went off to fight a World War that was devastating but necessary. For most of us\*, all we're being asked to do is stay home for a couple of months -- we can do this!

( \* Hats off to the healthcare workers, law enforcement, first responders, and others who *ARE* being asked to do a lot more than just stay home! )

As of this afternoon, we are aware of 49 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our region. There are confirmed cases in 10 of our 12 counties. We know the numbers will continue to grow. And sadly, we have now had 2 deaths in our region.

*(NOTE: These figures are not for release to the public. All public information regarding COVID-19 cases should come from the local health authorities, cities or counties, or the Department of State Health Services.)*

**Please take note of this directive:**

Under NO circumstances may any employee or other person come into the DETCOG building if you, anyone living in your household, or anyone else you have come into close contact with:

- is exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms; or
- has been tested and is awaiting the results (or has tested positive); or
- has come into contact with anyone else who has tested positive or has been tested and is awaiting results.

I'll close with this. I'm as self-centered as the next person. But let's not think about ourselves and feel sorry for ourselves during all this. Instead, let's think about the other people who are important to us -- our kids, grandkids, other family members, maybe that adorable little kid who lives next door... We're doing this for all of THEM.

God bless you and enjoy your weekend. Big party when this is all over!

Lonnie